UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1990/25
E/CN.6/1990/1
6 April 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

First regular session of 1990

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN ON ITS THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION*

(26 February-9 March 1990)

* The present document is a mimeographed version of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its thirty-fourth session. The final report will be issued as Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 5 (E/1990/25).

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SUMMARY

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolutions 1988/77 and 1989/114 on the revitalization of the work of the Council, the Commission on the Status of Women wishes to highlight the recommendations made and decisions adopted at its thirty-fourth session.

The Commission undertook the five-year review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the year 2000; it identified obstacles to the implementation of the Strategies and made recommendations for immediate action to overcome them; it also specified the proposed priority themes for consideration by the Commission during the period 1993-1996 (draft resolution XIII). The Commission recommends the addition of the question of women and the environment to the priority theme to be dealt with in 1992 under the objective of development in order to contribute to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (draft decision I). The Commission also recommends an effort to publicize the results of the first review and appraisal and to improve and simplify the reporting process for the second one (draft resolutions VII and XII).

The Commission also recommends the convening of a world conference on women in 1995 to undertake the next review and appraisal and recommend action to be taken to complete the implementation of the Strategies, with emphasis on preparations at the national level; the preparatory work would be included in the agenda of the Commission and resource requirements in the United Nations proposed programme budgets for the bienniums 1992-1993 and 1994-1995 (draft resolution X).

Based on its discussion of the priority theme under the objective equality, the Commission recommends a number of steps to improve the participation of women in decision-making at the national and international levels, including the development and dissemination by the United Nations of information on the composition of the highest decision-making bodies at the national, regional and international levels, disaggregated by sex, and assistance for national machinery to develop the same information at central, regional and local levels (draft resolution II). With regard to the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat, the Commission recommends the achievement of an overall participation rate for women of 35 per cent of the total by 1995, without prejudice to the principle of equitable geographical distribution of posts, and a special effort to increase the number of women in senior policy-level and decision-making posts (draft resolution I).

The need to integrate women fully in the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade is emphasized; the Commission recommends that it be given the responsibility for monitoring those aspects of the implementation of the strategy that pertain to women (draft resolution VIII).

The Commission recommends continuing the work to support Palestinian women, women living under apartheid and women in Central America; it also recommends that the contribution of Namibian women to independence be recognized and that they be assisted in the process of reconstruction and development (draft resolutions IV, V, IX and XI).

As a result of the procedure for reviewing communications concerning the status of women, the Commission recommends further action to deal with the problem of physical violence against detained women that is specific to their sex; it also recommends that a study be done on how to improve the working of the communications procedure (draft resolution III and VI).

The Commission made a number of substantive recommendations in its own right. In a recommendation concerning the International Year of the Family, addressed to the Commission for Social Development through the Economic and Social Council, it called for particular attention to be paid to women as members of the family in the celebration of the Year (Commission resolution 34/7).

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Chapter I

MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

A. Draft resolutions

1. The Commission on the Status of Women recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the paragraphs of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 1/ in which importance is attached to the appointment of women in the Secretariat at senior decision-making and managerial levels,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 43/101 of 8 December 1988, 43/103 of 8 December 1988, 43/224 of 21 December 1988, 43/226 of 21 December 1988, 44/75 of 8 December 1989 and 44/185 C of 19 December 1989, Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/29 of 24 May 1989 and other related resolutions and decisions and their relevant provisions,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat, 2/

Noting that the Steering Committee for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat has resumed its mandated monitoring role,

Noting also the oral report made before the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fourth session by the focal point for women in the Office of Human Resources Management of the United Nations Secretariat, and noting with appreciation the measures taken by the Secretary-General to reach the goal of an overall participation rate for women of 30 per cent of the total by 1990, as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 40/258 B of 18 December 1985, paragraph 3,

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* For the discussion, see chap. II.

1/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

2/ A/C.5/44/17.

1. Requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to increase the number of women employed throughout the United Nations system in posts subject to geographical distribution, and to make a special effort to increase the number of women in senior policy-level and decision-making posts, in order to achieve an overall participation rate of 35 per cent of the total by 1995, without prejudice to the principle of equitable geographical distribution of posts;

2. Requests that Member States continue to support the efforts of the United Nations and its specialized agencies to increase the percentage of women in the Professional category and above by, inter alia, nominating more women candidates, especially for senior policy-level and decision-making posts, by encouraging women to apply for vacant posts and by creating national rosters of women candidates to be shared with the United Nations Secretariat and the governing bodies of the specialized agencies;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the information in his annual report on progress achieved and future strategies to implement action programmes on the status of women in the Secretariat and the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council are transmitted to the General Assembly for comment under the item on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;

4. Further requests the Secretary-General to make available to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fifth session the annual report referred to in paragraph 3 above with an update of the information contained therein.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Equality in political participation and decision-making*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 1/ in particular paragraphs 86-92, thereof,

Recalling also the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 3/ in particular paragraph 7 thereof,

Noting the recommendation made by the Expert Group on Equality in Political Participation and Decision-making, held at Vienna from 18 to 22 September 1989, that the advancement of women should be considered a priority in national decision-making and that women should be full partners in those decisions, 4/

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

3/ General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

4/ E/CN.6/1990/2 and Corr.1, annex.

Gravely concerned that on average women represent a very low proportion of decision makers in all regions,

Gravely concerned also about the findings in the report of the Secretary-General concerning the low number of women throughout the United Nations system, particularly in senior policy-level and decision-making posts, 5/

Bearing in mind that key decisions in society are taken in a large number of assemblies, such as Governments, parliaments, public boards and committees, trade and industry boards, trade unions and other organizations,

Also bearing in mind that women constitute approximately half the world's population and must participate on an equal footing with men in national decision-making and in the construction of their countries,

Considering that decisions taken in society, if they are to reflect universal views, need to be based on the experience of both women and men,

Also considering that women at all levels of society should be aware of the importance of political and other decisions to their everyday life and the potential impact of their participation in those decisions,

Aware of the need to create more flexible structures in decision-making and open practices in recruiting processes,

Noting the importance of the contribution of women's organizations and other non-governmental organizations to the work of increasing women's participation in decision-making at all levels of society,

Affirming that increasing the number of women in decision-making, in Member States as well as in the organizations of the United Nations system, is of paramount importance for the fulfilment and implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies,

1. Welcomes the recommendations of the Expert Group on Equality in Political Participation and Decision-making;

2. Urges States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to ensure strict implementation of the Convention and to facilitate the wide publication of its provisions;

3. Also urges Governments to increase their efforts to make women full partners in national decision-making;

4. Recommends that Governments in order to accelerate the pace towards the full participation of women in national decision-making should introduce the following measures:

(a) The regular compilation and dissemination of gender-specific data on the composition of relevant bodies at various levels of national decision-making, including central and regional levels;

5/ E/CN.6/1990/2 and Corr.1, sect. C.

(b) The design of programmes and campaigns to inform women of their legal political rights including the introduction of temporary positive action measures and the facilitation of the training of women for leadership and participation in political organizations and trade unions;

(c) The review of educational material with the aim of removing gender bias;

(d) The facilitation of research on women's opportunities of exerting influence and on structural and other obstacles to women's participation in decision-making;

(e) The setting of concrete targets on the number of women in bodies whose composition is the responsibility of the Governm nt;

5. Urges political organizations, trade unions and other relevant bodies to take appropriate measures to substantially increase the number of women who participate in decision-making in their organizations;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, as part of the regular work for the advancement of women carried out by the Organization, to disseminate on a regular basis the composition of the highest decision-making bodies at the national, regional and international levels, disaggregated by sex, to assist national machinery for the advancement of women to develop similar information at the central, regional and local levels, and to promote the exchange of experience between national machinery;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General urgently to intensify his efforts to increase the number of women throughout the United Nations system, particularly in senior policy-level and decision-making posts.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Physical violence against detained women that is specific to their sex*

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting with grave concern the continuing pattern of physical violence against women, cases of rape, sexual abuse and other instances of violent treatment while detained, to which the Commission on the Status of Women drew attention at its thirty-fourth session,

Considering that women are especially vulnerable to sexual violence,

Recalling its resolutions 76 (V) of 5 August 1947, 304 I (XI) of 14 and 17 July 1950 and 1984/19 of 24 May 1984 and 1986/29 of 23 May 1986,

Recalling also its resolutions 1980/39 of 2 May 1980 and 1983/27 of 26 May 1983, by which it reaffirmed the mandate of the Commission to consider communications relating to the status of women, including the replies of

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

Governments thereon, if any, and to draw to the attention of the Council emerging trends and patterns so that it might decide what action to take,

1. Calls upon all Member States that have not yet done so to take appropriate measures urgently, as necessary, to eradicate acts of physical violence against detained women;

2. Invites Member States that have not yet done so to submit to the Secretary-General a report on legislative and other measures they have taken, as applicable, to prevent physical violence against detained women that is specific to their sex, so as to enable him to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-sixth session, in 1992;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Commission at its thirty-sixth session prepared on the basis of reports received from Member States;

4. Requests the Commission to continue to consider communications relating to the status of women and to make recommendations thereon to the Council, if necessary.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Women and children in Namibia*

The Economic and Social Council,

Welcoming the independence of Namibia scheduled for 21 March 1990,

Bearing in mind the tremendous responsibilities that the Government of a newly independent country will face,

Recalling the active role played by Namibian women in the struggle for liberation and independence,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Commission on the Status of Women for its support in the struggle for Namibian independence;

2. Recognizes the sustained efforts of Namibian women to achieve full and equal participation with men in political, social and economic activities and to continue their contribution to the construction of a free and independent Namibia;

3. Appeals to the international community to provide financial, technical and other forms of assistance to enable the Government of Namibia to implement measures aimed at improving the conditions of women and children in that country;

4. Urges governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to make resources available to assist in the rehabilitation and resettlement of returning Namibian women and children.

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

Central American women: equality, development and peace*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1989/35 of 24 March 1989 on women and peace in Central America,

Taking note of the advance in the implementation of the commitments reached by the Presidents of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua at the Esquipulas II summit meeting, 6/ and of the joint declarations adopted by those Presidents at Alajuela, Costa Rica, 7/ at Costa del Sol, El Salvador 8/ and, in particular, at Tela, Honduras, 9/

Convinced of the exceptional importance for the Central American people, in particular for women, of the achievement of peace, reconciliation, development and social justice in the region, as well as the recognition of their economic, social, cultural, political and civil rights,

Considering that the problems connected with the economic, political and social situation of the Central American region severely affect the living conditions and welfare levels of the population in general, in particular of women in poverty and their children,

Considering the importance of the role that Central American women play or should play in the development, as well as in the peace process and the preservation of national sovereignty, of the countries of the region,

Also considering that the intensity of the crisis in the region has caused women's associations to postpone their efforts to obtain social equality for Central American women,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 42/231 of 12 May 1988, 43/210 of 20 December 1988, and 44/182 of 19 December 1989 on the Special Plan of Economic Co-operation for Central America,

1. Expresses its satisfaction at the progress made in the implementation of the commitments made in the Esquipulas II agreement and in subsequent agreements;

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

6/ A/42/521-S/19085, annex.

7/ A/42/911-S/19447, annex.

8/ A/44/140-S/20491, annex.

9/ A/44/451-S/20778, annex.

2. Calls again for the Presidents of the Central American countries to persevere in their joint efforts to reach peace in Central America and to ensure favourable conditions for the full implementation in the region of the objectives of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 1/ and requests the international community to support those efforts;

3. Urges all States to support the peace efforts with full respect for the principle of peoples' self-determination and of non-intervention;

4. Urges the Central American Governments to intensify their efforts to guarantee education, health, housing and employment to women on equal terms with men;

5. Appeals to the Central American Governments to facilitate and promote the adoption and full implementation of laws on the protection and social promotion of women;

6. Further appeals to the Central American Governments to promote the participation of women in the development of societies based on equality, peace, self-determination and social justice;

7. Recommends to the Secretary-General that the Special Plan on Economic Co-operation for Central America be reinforced with concrete activities supporting the advancement of the Central American women;

8. Urges the international community to take into consideration the specific needs and interests of Central American women in the programmes of technical, economic and financial co-operation for the region;

9. Also urges women's organizations, national and international, governmental and non-governmental, to participate and play an active role in the democratization, peace and development processes in Central America.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

Communications concerning the status of women*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 76 (V) of 5 August 1947 and 304 (XI) of 14 and 17 July 1950, which continue to form the basis for the mandate of the Commission on the Status of Women to receive at each of its regular sessions a list of confidential and non-confidential communications relating to the status of women,

Taking into consideration its resolution 1983/27 of 26 May 1983, in which it reaffirmed the mandate of the Commission to consider confidential and non-confidential communications on the status of women and authorized the Commission to appoint a working group on communications to consider and prepare a report to the Commission on such communications,

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

Recalling its resolution 1986/29 of 23 May 1986, in which it requested the Commission to continue to consider communications relating to the status of women and to make recommendations thereon to the Council, if necessary,

Reaffirming that discrimination against women is incompatible with human dignity and that women and men should participate on the basis of equality, irrespective of race or creed, in the social, economic and political processes of their countries,

Recognizing that the mandate of the Commission to consider communications on the status of women is crucial to its central role in monitoring and formulating recommendations furthering the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 1/ and furthers its ability to fulfil other aspects of its mandate regarding the elimination of discrimination against women,

Requests the Secretary-General to examine, in consultation with Governments, the existing mechanisms for communications on the status of women, in order to ensure that such communications on the status of women receive effective and appropriately co-ordinated consideration in view of the role of communications in the work of the Commission on the Status of Women on the elimination of discrimination against women, and to report thereon to the Commission at its thirty-fifth session.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VII

Second report on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women*

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind its resolution 1988/22 of 26 May 1988, in which it established a comprehensive five-yearly reporting system for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,

Taking note of the first report of the Secretary-General on progress at the national, regional and international levels in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 10/

Bearing in mind the obstacles encountered in the preparation of that report, in particular the lack of adequate responses to the questionnaire on progress at the national level,

Aware of the need for disaggregated information on the condition of women, in particular in developing countries,

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV below.

10/ E/CN.6/1990/5.

Aware that gender-based statistics produced by the Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and their partners in the United Nations system should facilitate more serious research at all levels in the years to come,

Concerned that financial resources for activities related to the advancement of women in the United Nations system have not increased,

Taking note of the recommendations and conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fourth session, 11/

1. Requests the Secretary-General to base the second report on progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women on national reports and available analyses of statistical data in the United Nations system as well as in other pertinent governmental and non-governmental organizations;

2. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-sixth session a report containing:

(a) Information on data that will be used in the formulation of the second report;

(b) An outline of the second report, in which special emphasis should be given to those issues contained in the recommendations and conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fourth session in particular those referring to the condition of women in developing countries.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VIII

Integration of women in the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/169 of 19 December 1989, which contains an outline for the elaboration of an international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade,

Recognizing that a major theme of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 1/ particularly paragraphs 109-111 thereof, is the role of women in development,

Stressing the critical role women play in the development process, and that women constitute 50 per cent of available human resources,

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

11/ See draft resolution XIII below, annex.

Noting that the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole for the Preparation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, established by the General Assembly in its resolution 43/182 of 20 December 1988, will elaborate the outline contained in General Assembly resolution 44/169, with a view to finalizing the strategy in 1990,

1. Recommends that the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole for the Preparation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade identify strategies for ensuring that women's needs and contribution to the development process are reflected in all aspects of the international development strategy, including human resource development and economic growth;

2. Further recommends that the Ad Hoc Committee, in finalizing the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade, consider measures to ensure the full and effective participation of women in development, by taking into consideration Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/105 of 27 July 1989, paragraph 11, as well as relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fourth session;

3. Urges Member States to give special attention to the role of women in development when preparing their contributions to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee in finalizing the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade and, in this regard, consult with national machinery and the non-governmental organizations concerned with women in development;

4. Decides that the Commission on the Status of Women should monitor the implementation of the international development strategy as it pertains to women and development in the context of its review of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. 1/

DRAFT RESOLUTION IX

Situation of Palestinian women*

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of a mission of experts, 12/

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 1/ in particular paragraph 260 thereof,

Further recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1988/25 of 26 May 1988 and 1989/34 of 24 May 1989,

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

12/ E/CN.6/1990/10.

Expressing concern at the persistent refusal of Israel to respect the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949, 13/

Deeply alarmed at the critical situation of Palestinian women and children in the occupied Palestinian territories, which is profoundly influenced by the consequences of continued Israeli military occupation,

Dismayed at the continuation of the oppressive practices of Israel, including collective punishment, curfews, demolition of houses, closure of schools and universities, confiscation of land and measures that are particularly harmful to the Palestinian women and children in the occupied Palestinian territories,

Deeply alarmed by the practices of Israel of settling new waves of Jewish immigrants in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, which is illegal and contravenes the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention,

1. Reaffirms that the basic improvement of the living conditions of the Palestinian women, their advancement, full equality and self-reliance can only be achieved by an end to the occupations and the attainment of their right to return, to self-determination and to establish an independent State in accordance with United Nations resolutions;

2. Reaffirms that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949 is applicable to the Palestinian people in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem;

3. Strongly condemns the oppressive Israeli measures against the intifadah and the consequent suffering experienced by Palestinian women and their families in the occupied Palestinian territories;

4. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to monitor the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in particular paragraph 260 thereof concerning assistance to Palestinian women inside and outside the occupied Palestinian territories;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the experts continue to monitor and further investigate the situation of Palestinian women and children inside and outside the occupied Palestinian territories, and submit their report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fifth session;

6. Requests governmental, non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations, including organizations of the United Nations system, to encourage and assist in existing income-generating activities for Palestinian women and in the creation of new jobs;

7. Further requests that Palestinian women be assisted in the creation of a women's centre that would provide possibilities for child care, educational discussion, cultural activities, women's solidarity and small-scale production;

13/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973, p. 287.

8. Requests the Secretary-General to monitor the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the mission of experts 12/ in order to alleviate the situation of Palestinian women in the occupied Palestinian territories;

9. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fifth session on the implementation of the recommendations and conclusions contained in the report of the mission of experts, 12/ taking into consideration all available information, including reports of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and its expert missions, reports of meetings, as appropriate, and information from Governments and non-governmental organizations.

DRAFT RESOLUTION X

World conference on women in 1995*

The Economic and Social Council,

Aware of General Assembly resolution 35/10 C of 3 November 1980 on special conferences of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 1987/20 of 26 May 1987, in which it recommended that world conferences to review and appraise the progress achieved in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women be held during the decade of the 1990s, at a date to be determined by the General Assembly not later than 1990, and in 2000,

Further recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/77 of 8 December 1989, requested the Commission on the Status of Women to consider at its session in 1990 the question of holding in 1995 a world conference on women, at the lowest possible cost, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its forty-fifth session,

Bearing in mind that in its resolution 1987/20 the Council decided that the Commission on the Status of Women would be designated the preparatory body for those conferences,

Convinced that without a major international event on which to focus national attention on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, the review and appraisal to take place in 1995 will not be given sufficient priority,

Reaffirming the continuing validity of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, including the interrelationship between equality, development and peace, and stressing the need to ensure their full implementation by the year 2000,

1. Recommends that a world conference on women should be held in 1995;

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

2. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women, as the preparatory body for the world conference, to include preparations for the conference in its regular work programme during the period 1991-1995 under the item on monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to include the relevant costs of preparing and convening the world conference in the programme budget of the Organization for the bienniums 1992-1993 and 1994-1995 within the respective budgetary limits;

4. Further requests the Secretary-General to make proposals on the preparation and convening of the world conference for submission to the Commission at its thirty-fifth session.

DRAFT RESOLUTION XI

Women and children under apartheid*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1989/33 of 24 May 1989,

Noting the concern of women throughout the world about the continuing degradation and abuse to which African women and children are subjected daily by the white minority régime of South Africa,

Recalling that this concern was expressed in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 1/ which also contain proposals for various forms of assistance to be rendered to women and children inside South Africa and to those who have become refugees,

Recognizing that the inhuman exploitation and dispossession of the African people by the white minority régime is directly responsible for the appalling conditions in which African women and children live,

Also recognizing that the equality of women cannot be achieved without the success of the struggle towards a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa,

1. Commends the tenacity and bravery of those women both inside and outside South Africa who have resisted oppression, who have been detained, tortured or killed, or whose husbands, children and relatives have been detained, tortured or killed and who, despite this, have remained steadfast in their opposition to the racist régime;

2. Acknowledges the efforts of those Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals that have campaigned for and applied sanctions against the racist régime;

3. Welcomes recent developments in South Africa, in particular the unbanning of political organizations and the release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners;

4. Demands the immediate and unconditional release of all other political prisoners and detainees, among whom are many women and children;

5. Condemns unequivocally the South African régime for the imposition of the state of emergency, the forcible separation of black families, and the detention and imprisonment of women and children;

6. Urges the international community not to relax sanctions against South Africa until all the provisions of the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution S-16/1 of 14 December 1989, are met;

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

7. Appeals to all countries to support educational, health and social welfare programmes for women and children under apartheid;

8. Appeals to the international community for increased assistance for women and children refugees in southern Africa;

9. Calls upon the international community to encourage the atmosphere for dialogue prevailing in South Africa;

10. Urges Member States and United Nations bodies to give effect forthwith, in consultation with liberation movements, to the Forward-looking Strategies that deal with women and children under apartheid, giving particular attention to education, health, vocational training and employment opportunities and to the strengthening of the women's sections of liberation movements;

11. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to work closely with women in the liberation movements in order to disseminate information and to ensure a proper assessment of the needs and aspirations of the women and children living under apartheid;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fifth session a report on the progress made in achieving those goals.

DRAFT RESOLUTION XII

Action to increase awareness of the slow progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women*

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on progress at the national, regional and international levels in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 14/

Aware of the fact that, although some progress was reported in the area of de jure equality, progress in de facto equality, is slow in both developing and developed countries,

Deeply concerned about the seriousness of the situation in many developing countries, where economic stagnation or negative growth, continued population increase, and the growing burden of debt and reduction of public expenditures for social programmes, as part of unavoidable adjustment-oriented policies have further constrained the opportunities for women to improve their situation,

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

14/ E/CN.6/1990/5.

Alarmed by trends, in particular in some developing countries, that suggest a regression in the status of women in education, employment and health, as well as slow or no progress in achieving the full integration of women in development or the full participation of women in peace,

Conscious of the fact that, in many countries, the national machinery for the advancement of women lacks the necessary technology and resources to gather and disseminate information or to formulate policies in favour of the status of women,

Taking into account the fact that in many countries the issue of the advancement of women is receiving low priority,

Bearing in mind the role assigned to the United Nations system in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 1/

1. Urges Governments to make renewed commitments to implement the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies by strengthening their national machinery and increasing the resources devoted to programmes for the advancement of women;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to carry out, through the Department of Information of the United Nations Secretariat, a world-wide educational campaign, to increase awareness of the obstacles encountered in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, in particular:

(a) Obstacles to de facto equality in political participation and decision-making;

(b) Obstacles to the advancement of women in education, employment and health, in particular in developing countries, giving special attention to problems confronted by women in extreme poverty, rural women and women in the informal sector of the economy;

(c) Obstacles to the participation of women in the peace process;

3. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1991, through the Commission on the Status of Women, on the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION XIII

Recommendations and conclusions arising from the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the year 2000*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1987/18, in which it affirmed the appropriateness of a five-year cycle of review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

Having reviewed the discussion held by the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fourth session on the report of the Secretary-General on progress at the national, regional and international levels in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 14/

1. Adopts the recommendations and conclusions annexed to the present resolution;

2. Urges Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to implement the recommendations;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to give wide distribution to the recommendations and conclusions;

4. Further requests the Secretary-General to include information on the implementation of the recommendations in his biennial monitoring report and in the report on the second regular review and appraisal of the Forward-looking Strategies.

Annex

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS ARISING FROM THE FIRST REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAIROBI FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

I. INCREASING THE PACE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAIROBI FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

1. After five years of implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, one third of the time set for achieving the objectives having elapsed, obstacles remain. Although the continued efforts of women throughout the world to achieve equality, development and peace have begun to have an effect at the grass-roots level, their efforts have yet to be translated into improvements in the daily lives of most women. This success if largely invisible: it is not yet reflected in official statistics and not always found in government policy. The entrenched resistance to women's advancement and the reduction of resources available for change that has accompanied the world economic situation in the late 1980s have meant that there has been a loss of impetus and even stagnation in some areas where more progress would have been expected.

2. The pace of implementation of the Strategies must be improved in the crucial last decade of the twentieth century. The costs to societies of failing to implement the Strategies would be high in terms of slowed economic and social development, misuse of human resources and reduced progress for society as a whole. For this reason, immediate steps should be taken to remove the most serious obstacles to the implementation of the Strategies.

A. Equality

3. The interdependence of the different political and social sectors on the one hand, and the legal and social situation on the other, needs to be recognized. However, de jure equality constitutes only the first step towards de facto

equality. Most countries have enacted legal measures to ensure that women have equal opportunities before the law, that is de jure equality. But de facto as well as de jure discrimination continues and visible political and economic commitment by Governments and non-governmental organizations will be required to eliminate it. One obstacle to eliminating de facto discrimination is that most women and men are not aware of women's legal rights or do not fully understand the legal and administrative systems through which they must be implemented. Some affirmative action measures require legal bases which still need to be created.

Recommendation I. Governments, in association with women's organizations and other non-governmental organizations, should take steps on a priority basis to inform women and men of women's rights under international conventions and national law and to prepare and/or continue campaigns for women's "legal literacy" using formal and non-formal education at all levels, the mass media and other means; efforts to this end should have been undertaken by 1994.

The work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women should be widely publicized through forms of communication that are accessible to women in order to make them aware of their rights. National reports to the Committee should be widely disseminated within the respective countries and discussed by governmental and non-governmental organizations. Organizations of the United Nations system, particularly the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, should be requested to examine national experience in promoting legal literacy with a view to assisting Governments, non-governmental organizations and women's movements in mounting successful campaigns.

Recommendation II. Governments should take steps to put legal equality into practice, including measures to provide a link between individual women and official machinery such as the establishment of offices of ombudsmen or similar systems. Where possible, access to legal redress by collective and individual legal action by national machinery and non-governmental organizations should be facilitated in order to assist women in ensuring the implementation of their rights.

4. There is abundant evidence that practices denigrating the role and potential of women continue to constitute obstacles in many countries. Whether reflected in stereotyped images of male and female roles in textbooks or in the glorification of traditional roles in the mass media, the perpetuation of such images retards women's advancement by providing justification for an unequal status quo.

Recommendation III. In the area of education, both formal and non-formal, Governments should promote the training of teachers on gender issues, co-education and professional counselling. Governments according to national law and practice should complete the revision of textbooks expeditiously, if possible by 1995, in order to eliminate sex-biased presentations and should, in conjunction with women's groups, take steps to reduce the stereotyping of women in the mass media, whether by self-policing on the part of the media or by other measures.

Governments, non-governmental organizations, women's groups and all other entities concerned should take steps to insert necessary amendments to formal and informal educational systems at all levels to promote change in

psychological, social and traditional practices that are the foundation of the de facto obstacles to women's progress.

The United Nations Secretariat, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other appropriate organizations of the United Nations system should continue to analyse the extent and effects of stereotyping of women and implement innovative programmes to combat it.

5. Women have always been an important part of the work-force and their role will continue to grow with development, industrialization, economic necessity and the expansion of women's access to the economy. In most countries, however, the participation of women and men in the economy continues to be unequal, characterized by job segregation, insufficient training opportunities, unequal pay for work of equal value, inadequate career prospects and lack of full participation in economic decision-making.

Recommendation IV. Governments, non-governmental organizations and private-sector enterprises should implement special measures to increase the proportion of women involved in economic decision-making, including studies on the incidence of women in such positions in the public and private sectors, the promotion of training programmes, analysis of alternative policies to provide women with careers leading to economic decision-making, and the adjustment of national legislation.

The United Nations should study the incidence of women in economic decision-making world wide, analyse innovative national programmes to increase the proportion of women in economic decision-making positions and publicize the results, within existing resources.

Recommendation V. Governments and/or appropriate parties should make efforts to increase the number of women in paid employment, including measures to eliminate sex segregation in the labour market and to improve women's working conditions. Governments and/or appropriate parties should collect, maintain and improve statistics showing the relative remuneration of women and men. They should renew their efforts to close the gap between women's and men's pay possibly by 1995 and take special measures to address the principle of equal pay for work of equal value. They should also take concrete steps to measure the economic value of women's unpaid work with a view to taking it into account in national policies by 1995.

The United Nations system should complete work on methodological aspects of measuring pay inequities between women and men, unpaid work and work in the informal sector and should publish studies of countries where such measurements have been made.

6. That women are grossly underrepresented in political decision-making has been amply documented. This means that decisions on public policies that affect women's equality are still in the hands of men, who may not have the same incentive to pursue them as women. Despite indications that in some countries women, by voting for candidates or parties that promise to promote their interests, are beginning to decide the outcome of elections, the incidence of women in parliaments, parties and in formal Government is still low. The situation will persist unless more women stand and are selected for office and are allowed to begin careers leading to

senior management positions in the public sector and until women exercise their voting power in their own interests as well as in the interests of society.

7. The number of women in decision-making positions in intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should be increased. Efforts should also be made to ensure women's participation in the process of selection and enrolment.

Recommendation VI. All civil service regulations should have clear statements on practices of recruitment, appointment, promotion, leave entitlement, training and development, and other conditions of service.

Governments, political parties, trade unions and professional and other representative groups should each aim at targets to increase the proportion of women in leadership positions to at least 30 per cent by 1995 with a view to achieving equal representation between women and men by the year 2000 and should institute recruitment and training programmes to prepare women for those positions.

Governments, political parties, trade unions and women's organizations should be encouraged to establish a list of qualified women which could be used to fill vacant positions. The importance of training women in the skills necessary for political and administrative careers should also be recognized.

The Interregional Consultation on Women in Public Life, to be held in September 1991, should have maximum participation by Governments and non-governmental organizations and should elaborate for the first half of the decade an agenda for political action that will mobilize all women to participate actively in the political process.

The United Nations Secretariat, in co-operation with other institutions and in collaboration with Governments, should further develop and disseminate an accessible data base on the composition of the highest decision-making bodies at the national, regional and international levels, disaggregated by sex. The United Nations system could assist national Government to set up such data bases.

B. Development

8. The experience of the past five years has confirmed the view expressed at the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, held at Nairobi from 15 to 26 July 1985, that the advancement of women is not possible without development, and that without the advancement of women, development itself will be difficult to achieve.

9. Unfortunately, women in most developing countries were adversely affected by an overall economic crisis produced by the debt problem, deteriorating terms of trade, protectionism, internal imbalances and unequal patterns of income distribution. For the majority of women, economic and social developments during the 1980s have not resulted in the benefits anticipated at the beginning of the Decade. On the contrary, there has been a dramatic reduction of economic development and the adjustment-oriented policies adopted have led to a serious reduction of public expenditure on education, health and housing. Those circumstances have affected the condition of women in a variety of negative ways.

10. An economic environment of growth with equitable distribution, both at the national level and in the international economic system, is essential, as is the recognition of women's full participation. The feminization of poverty reflects the underlying structural problems faced by women in the midst of economic change. Prevailing economic policies at the national and international levels have frequently failed to take into account potential negative effects on women or women's potential contribution and have accordingly not succeeded.

Recommendation VII. In order to help revitalize economic growth, international economic and social co-operation together with sound economic policies should be pursued. Structural adjustment and other economic reform measures should be designed and implemented so as to promote the full participation of women in the development process, while avoiding the negative economic and social effects. They should be accompanied by policies giving women equal access to credit, productive inputs, markets and decision-making and this should be incorporated fully into national economic policy and planning.

The international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade should take full account of women's contribution and potential and this should be an important part of monitoring its implementation. Relevant organizations of the United Nations system should continue to examine the effects of national and international economic policies on social progress, in particular the condition of women in developing countries.

11. The incorporation of women into the labour force has occurred on a scale unimaginable 30 years ago. Nevertheless, given unfavourable economic conditions in developing countries, the majority of women remain or are increasing in number in the informal sector of the economy.

Recommendation VIII. Governmental policies, non-governmental action and internatic al co-operation should be directed towards supporting programmes to improve the living conditions of women in the informal sector.

These programmes should contribute, among other things, to the incorporation into the informal sector of appropriate technologies which could increase production in that sector and make domestic and international markets more accessible. Women in the informal sector should be encouraged to organize themselves so as to know their rights and be able to obtain the necessary support to exercise them.

Appropriate organizations at the international level should gather more detailed and accurate information related to women in the informal sector in order to be able to identify the most efficient measures to ameliorate their condition.

12. Women are overrepresented among the poor because of the factors deriving from existing inequality between men and women in most societies. The number of women living in extreme poverty in many countries has increased during the period under review.

Recommendation IX. Governments, non-governmental organizations and international organizations should take concrete measures to eradicate poverty. These measures should have a multi-purpose approach and include educational skills and training designed to generate productive activities.

13. Since 1970, there has been a significant expansion in women's access to education, which has proved to be an important means of equipping women to play a full and equal role in society. Although some regions have achieved equality in access to education, considerable progress remains to be achieved in most developing countries at all levels of education, including universal primary education. Moreover, although improved access of girls to education is gradually eliminating illiteracy among the young, gender-related differences in illiteracy among adults continue to constitute an obstacle to women's legal, economic, social and political empowerment by denying women an essential tool for acquiring knowledge and skills. In addition, women who have access to education are often channelled into traditionally female specialities. Of particular concern for the future is the achievement of women's access to science and technology through education and training, which is now limited by budgetary constraints, especially in developing countries.

Recommendation X. Governments that have not already done so should reorient resources to ensure women's equal access to education and training at all levels and in all fields and, in collaboration with women's groups and non-governmental organizations, should make special efforts to remove all gender-related differences in adult literacy by the year 2000. Programmes should be established to ensure that parents and teachers provide equal educational opportunities for girls and boys. In particular, encouragement should be given to promoting the study by girls of scientific and technological subjects, particularly those corresponding to national development priorities, and to preparing girls for full participation in the economy and in public life. In order to be able to fulfil these commitments appropriate measures should be taken at the national and international levels to ensure revitalization of growth on a long-term basis.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other organizations of the United Nations system should give special priority to eliminating female illiteracy and to monitoring efforts to ensure women's equal access to all levels of education and training.

14. The importance of food security and the critical role of women as food producers - of both domestic and cash crops - are indisputably recognized; none the less, the conditions of rural women are improving at a slow pace and in some cases have even deteriorated. Projects on their behalf have generally met with limited success. The main reasons are insufficient human and financial expertise, the lack of a country-wide network of regional or local branches of government agencies and the lack of technical expertise, all of which have been aggravated in developing countries by the current economic crisis that has shifted resources to export-oriented farmers and so deprived rural women of vital inputs and infrastructure.

Recommendation XI. Governments should take particular steps to ensure that new technologies are accessible to women and that women participate in the design and application of those technologies.

Recommendation XII. Governments and non-governmental organizations should adopt empowerment rather than welfare strategies to support women in their role as agricultural producers, with a view to improving their economic and social situation and to integrating them into mainstream agricultural development. Priority should be accorded to projects aimed at guaranteeing access of rural women to technology, credit, training, trade marketing, management and improved agricultural infrastructure and control of the use of land.

The United Nations system, mainly the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, should collaborate with Governments in identifying and providing inputs that are needed to support the agricultural productive capacity of women.

The United Nations system should develop new methods of promoting the transfer of science and technology to women.

15. Since the beginning of the 1980s, there has been a decline in women's standard of health and nutrition in parts of every developing region due, inter alia, to a decline in per capita expenditure on health. This is a particularly alarming situation since maternal and neonatal health are crucial to infant survival. Infant and child mortality rates have been rising in a number of countries after having declined for decades.

Recommendation XIII. Governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and the public in general should be aware of the decline in women's health in developing countries. Improvement of women's health by providing appropriate and accessible health services should be a priority within the goal of health for all by the year 2000.

Women constitute the majority of health care workers in most countries. They should be enabled to play a much larger role in decision-making for health. Governments, international non-governmental organizations and women's organizations should undertake programmes aimed at improving women's health by ensuring access to adequate maternal and child health care, family planning, safe motherhood programmes, nutrition, programmes for female-specific diseases and other primary health care services in relation to the goal of health for all by the year 2000.

The World Health Organization and other organizations of the United Nations system should further develop emergency programmes to cope with the deteriorating conditions of women's health mainly in developing countries with particular attention to nutrition, maternal health care and sanitation.

16. Women's access to information and services relating to population and family planning are improving only slowly in most countries. A woman's ability to control her own fertility continues to be a major factor enabling her to protect her health, achieve her personal objectives and ensure the strength of her family. All women should be in a position to plan and organize their lives.

Recommendation XIV. Governments, non-governmental organizations and women's movements should develop programmes to enable women to implement their decisions on the timing and spacing of their children. These programmes should include population education programmes linked to women's rights and

their role in development, as well as the sharing of family responsibilities by men and boys. Social services should be provided to help women reconcile family and employment requirements.

Family planning programmes should be developed or extended to enable women to implement their decisions on the timing and spacing of their children and for safe motherhood.

The United Nations Secretariat, the United Nations Population Fund, the World Health Organization and other organizations of the United Nations system should develop collaborative programmes to link women's role in development to questions related to population.

17. During the past five years, women's health, both physical and psychological, has been increasingly affected in many countries by the consumption and abuse of alcohol, narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

Recommendation XV. Governments and other competent national authorities should establish national policies and programmes on women's health with respect to the consumption and abuse of alcohol, narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Strong preventive as well as rehabilitative measures should be taken.

In addition, efforts should be intensified to reduce women's occupational health hazards and to discourage illicit drug use.

18. The emergence, since the Nairobi Conference, of new threats to the health and status of women, such as the alarming increase in sexually transmitted diseases and the AIDS pandemic, requires urgent action from both medical and social institutions.

Recommendation XVI. Greater attention is also needed with respect to the issue of women and AIDS, and efforts in this regard should be an integral part of the Global Programme on AIDS of the World Health Organization. Urgent action and action-oriented research are also required by social institutions at all levels, in particular the United Nations system, national AIDS committees and non-governmental organizations, to inform women of the threat of AIDS to their health and status.

19. Urbanization, migration and economic changes have increased the proportion of families headed by women and the number of women entering the labour force. These women have experienced increasing difficulties in harmonizing their economic role with the demands on them to provide care for children and dependants. The double burden, rather than being reduced by greater sharing between spouses, has increased. Unless it is reduced, women will not be able to play their full and fair role in development.

Recommendation XVII. Governments and other appropriate bodies should, by 1995, establish social support measures with the aim of facilitating the combination of parental and other caring responsibilities and paid employment, including policies for the provision of services and measures to increase the sharing between men and women of such responsibilities and to deal with specific problems of female-headed households that include dependants.

The United Nations Secretariat, the United Nations Children's Fund and other appropriate organizations of the United Nations system should, as part of the International Year of the Family in 1994, make a special effort to analyse the issues of caring for children and dependants and sharing domestic, parental and other caring responsibilities, including the appraisal of national experience.

20. The issue of the environment affects the lives of everyone, women and men alike. Women's participation in making decisions on the environment is limited despite the high level of concern women express for the issue and their involvement in it. Women's concern for the environment in all its aspects can be an important force for a general mobilization of women that may have an impact on other areas, including equality and peace.

Recommendation XVIII. Governments should make efforts to involve individual women and women's groups in making decisions on the environment. Educational programmes should be developed on environmental issues and their relation to daily life.

The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992 should consider dealing with the issue of women and the environment with a view, inter alia, to mobilizing women at both the national and international levels and to ensuring that the experience and knowledge of women are fully taken into account.

21. The progress made in disarmament negotiations is welcomed. It is noted that this has not been matched by progress in social and economic development.

Recommendation XIX. Governments are urged to consider redirecting possible savings from disarmament to the improvement of social and economic development, including women's development.

C. Peace

22. Despite the progress made in some areas, international, regional and national conflicts persist, and women continue to number among their main victims. At the same time, women are no more prominent among those making decisions on conflict than in the past.

Recommendation XX. Governments should be encouraged to increase the participation of women in the peace process at the decision-making level, including them as part of delegations to negotiate international agreements relating to peace and disarmament and establishing a target for the number of women participating in such delegations.

The United Nations and the international non-governmental organizations concerned should continue to monitor and support women's increased involvement in the peace process.

Recommendation XXI. In the context of an increased effort to resolve the long-standing conflicts affecting Palestinian and South African women, special efforts sho ld be made to ensure that all women concerned fully participate in the peace process and in the construction of their societies. The

reconstruction process should include as a priority special programmes of assistance to women. Such programmes should also be developed for the benefit of Namibian women.

23. The recognition that violence against women in the family and society is pervasive and cuts across lines of income, class and culture must be matched by urgent and effective steps to eliminate its incidence. Violence against women derives from their unequal status in society.

Recommendation XXII. Governments should take immediate measures to establish appropriate penalties for violence against women in the family, the work place and society. Governments and other relevant agencies should also undertake policies to prevent, control and reduce the impact of violence on women in the family, the work place and society. Governments and relevant agencies, women's organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector should develop appropriate correctional, educational and social services, including shelters, training programmes for law enforcement officers, the judiciary and health and social service personnel, as well as adequate deterrent and corrective measures. The number of women at all levels of law enforcement, legal assistance and the judicial system should be increased.

The United Nations system, Governments and non-governmental organizations should study the relationship between the portrayal of violence against women in the media and violence against women in the family and society, including possible effects of new transnational transmission technologies.

II. NATIONAL MACHINERY

24. The first few years of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women have emphasized the importance of national machinery for the advancement of women in promoting the integration of women's needs and concerns into government policies and programmes, in mobilizing grass-roots support and in providing information at the national and international levels. National machinery, despite resource limitations, has been a significant factor in keeping the Strategies alive in individual countries. The effectiveness of national machinery has been found to depend on the political commitment of Governments, as reflected in appropriate resource levels, institutional location, competence in technical fields and ability to use information. Improving all of these factors is an important means of eliminating other obstacles.

Recommendation XXIII. National machinery should be established in every State by 1995, should be given an institutional location allowing it to have a direct effect on government policy and should be provided with sufficient resources of its own (a) to collect and disseminate information on the situation of women and on the potential consequences of government policies on women and (b) to contribute to their advancement. National machinery should continue to develop coherent policies for the advancement of women as part of national priorities and plans.

The United Nations system should support national machinery by providing advisory, training and information services relating to planning and management, training methods, evaluation and the acquisition and use of information; it should encourage mutual assistance and exchange of experience between units of national machinery.

Recommendation XXIV. The United Nations system should, within the existing regular budget, allocate sufficient resources to enable it to meet national requests and maintain co-ordinated international activities at a level that will make possible the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. Additionally, voluntary contributions to this end are to be encouraged.

III. PRIORITY THEMES FOR THE PERIOD 1993-1996

25. Based on this analysis, the Commission on the Status of Women should examine key priority themes in each of the areas of equality, development and peace.

A. Equality

1. Increased awareness by women of their rights, including legal literacy

2. Equal pay for work of equal value, including methodologies for measurement of pay inequities and work in the informal sector

3. Equality in economic decision-making

4. Elimination of stereotyping of women in the mass media

B. Development

1. Women in extreme poverty: integration of women's concerns in national development planning

2. Women in urban areas: population, nutrition and health factors for women in development, including migration, drug consumption and AIDS

3. Promotion of literacy, education and training, including technological skills

4. Child and dependant care, including sharing of work and family responsibilities

C. Peace

1. Women and the peace process

2. Measures to eradicate violence against women in the family and society

3. Women in international decision-making

4. Education for peace

B. Draft decisions

2. The Commission on the Status of Women recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

DRAFT DECISION I

Women and the environment*

The Economic and Social Council, recalling its resolution 1987/24 of 26 May 1987 on the long-term programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women to the year 2000, in which the priority themes for the period 1988-1992 were set out, and bearing in mind that the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development will be held in 1992, decides to add the question of women and the environment to the priority theme to be dealt with at the thirty-sixth session of the Commission under the objective of development.

DRAFT DECISION II

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its thirty-fourth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-fifth session of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its thirty-fourth session and approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-fifth session of the Commission set out below.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

1. Election of officers.

   (Legislative authority: rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council)

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

   (Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII); rules 5 and 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council)

3. Programming and co-ordination matters related to the United Nations and the United Nations system.

   (Legislative authority: Programme planning regulation 4.12 (formerly 3.12); General Assembly resolution 44/75; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1985/46, 1986/65, 1986/71, 1987/86, 1988/18 and 1989/30)

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the future of the Trust Fund for the advancement of women

Report of the Secretary-General containing updated information on the status of women in the Secretariat

Note by the Secretariat on programme proposals for the biennium 1992-1993

Note by the Secretariat on proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

For information

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of women in the Secretariat (A/C.5/45/...)

4. Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women.

(Legislative authority: General Assembly resolutions 40/108, 41/111, 42/62, 43/101 and 44/77; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1987/18, 1987/19, 1987/20, 1988/19 and 1988/22 and decision 1989/129)

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General containing proposals on the preparation and convening of the world conference on women in 1995

Report of the Secretary-General on statistical indicators relating to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

Report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the interregional consultation on women in public life

Report of the Secretary-General on women and children under apartheid

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of Palestinian women in the occupied territories

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a list of confidential and non-confidential communications concerning the status of women

Report of the Secretary-General examining the existing mechanisms for communications on the status of women

For information

Report of the Secretary-General on monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women (A/45/...)

5. Priority themes.

(Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/24)

(a) Equality: Vulnerable women, including migrant women;

(b) Development: National, regional and international machinery for the effective integration of women in the development process, including non-governmental organizations;

(c) Peace: Refugee and displaced women and children

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on vulnerable women, including migrant women

Report of the Secretary-General on national, regional and international machinery for the effective integration of women in the development process, including non-governmental organizations

Report of the Secretary-General on refugee and displaced women and children

6. Provisional agenda for the thirty-sixth session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-fifth session.

C. Resolutions of the Commission brought to the attention of the Council

3. The following resolutions adopted by the Commission are brought to the attention of the Council:

Resolution 34/1. Women and the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse*

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Taking into account General Assembly resolutions 43/122 of 8 December 1988 on the international campaign against drug abuse and illicit trafficking and 44/141 of 15 December 1989 on the global programme of action against illicit narcotic drugs,

Reaffirming the principle of shared responsibility of the international community in the drive against drug abuse and illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Recognizing the need for women to participate actively, at the national and international levels, in the formulation of information and education programmes to prevent the abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Aware that the period 1991-2000 has been proclaimed the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session,

Recognizing also that women must participate fully in the activities of the Global Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session, 15/

1. Appeals to women to participate fully, at the national and international levels, in the activities of the Global Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session;

2. Encourages Governments to bring about greater participation by women in national and international programmes designed to combat illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking, distribution and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

3. Urges women to participate in the planning and formulation of information and education programmes to prevent the abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and heighten awareness of their harmful effects, and to promote community recreational and cultural activities for children and young people through facilities made available by the community itself;

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

15/ General Assembly resolution S-17/2, annex.

4. Appeals to all Member States to assign higher priority to the participation of women in the programmes connected with the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse, thereby contributing to the achievement of their objectives and to the success of the Decade;

5. Reaffirms the determination of women to commit themselves in a spirit of solidarity to the world-wide struggle against the scourge of drug abuse and the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to periodically inform the Commission on the Status of Women about the progress achieved and the measures taken by Governments and the United Nations system concerning women's participation in the implementation of the present resolution, starting with the session in 1993, until the end of the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse.

Resolution 34/2. Refugee and displaced women*

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling that the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 1/ recognize a humanitarian responsibility to protect and assist refugees and displaced persons on the basis of the principles of equality, development and peace,

Concerned that there are an estimated sixteen million refugees in the world and uncounted numbers of displaced persons, mostly living in developing countries, the majority of them women and children,

Recalling all the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women, in particular Commission resolution 33/6,

Bearing in mind the conclusion on refugee women adopted by the Executive Committee of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at its fortieth session, 16/

Recalling that the priority theme for the thirty-fifth session of the Commission under the rubric of peace will be refugee and displaced women and children,

Recognizing with appreciation the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, the United Nations Border Relief Operation, the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other organizations assisting refugee and displaced women,

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

16/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 12A (A/44/12/Add.1), sect. III.F.

1. Endorses the convening of an expert group on refugee and displaced women and children in July 1990 and urges Governments, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to take part in it;

2. Recommends that the scheduled report of the Secretary-General on refugee and displaced women and children, to be submitted to the Commission at its thirty-fifth session, should be prepared in full collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, taking into account the importance of the legal and physical protection of refugee women, and the office of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

3. Further recommends that the above-mentioned report should include input from the United Nations Border Relief Operation, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme and other relevant sources;

4. Calls on Governments and relevant United Nations agencies as well as the non-governmental organizations concerned to increase their efforts to respond to the specific needs of refugee women, in particular long-term refugees, and displaced women in the areas of education, health, physical safety, social services, skills training, employment and income-generating activities, and to involve refugee women in the planning and implementation of such programmes.

Resolution 34/3. Women and economic growth*

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Reaffirming the right and responsibility of each country, in accordance with its chosen economic and social system and priorities, to promote opportunities for all citizens to participate fully and constructively in economic life and to enhance and achieve their productive potential,

Noting that women play an essential economic role in providing labour, management, resources and technical skills in all economic systems, that women everywhere are increasing their participation in the labour force and that there has been a rapid growth in the number of enterprises owned and/or operated by women in a number of countries,

Bearing in mind that economic growth should benefit all citizens and provide new opportunities, jobs and technologies, and that broader economic activities are needed for women as well as men,

1. Recognizes that women, who comprise half the labour force in most countries and who are primary providers in an estimated 35 per cent of all households world wide, will be essential to the success and sustainability of any development strategy;

2. Urges the appropriate specialized agencies of the United Nations and Member States to develop strategies and/or improve existing ones, especially in the

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

area of human resources development, to promote opportunities for women to participate more fully in the economic growth of their countries, by:

(a) Facilitating women's fuller participation in the economies of their countries and optimizing their productivity, either as entrepreneurs or as employees;

(b) Supporting actively efforts to increase and work towards establishing equal opportunities for women in education, employment and advancement in the workplace.

Resolution 34/4. Women and situations of extreme vulnerability*

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Considering the report of the Secretary-General on progress at the national, regional and international levels in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 14/ and more particularly the situation of women as heads of households, elderly women and disabled women,

Considering that the predicament of those women has been aggravated by the economic crisis,

Concerned about the increase in the number of women in situations of vulnerability,

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, the 1982 International Plan of Action on Aging, the 1975 Declaration of the Rights of Disabled Persons and the 1982 World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,

1. Recommends to the Governments that they formulate and put into effect, in co-operation with women's organizations and other organizations concerned, a coherent body of specific measures in favour of women as heads of households, elderly women and disabled women in order to:

(a) Improve their situation;

(b) Ensure respect for their fundamental rights;

(c) Ensure that they have the opportunity to contribute to, as well as share in, the benefits of development;

2. Invites the United Nations agencies with special responsibility for formulating development programmes to include in those programmes special provisions in favour of women as heads of households, elderly women and disabled women, and to enable the Governments requesting it to draw on assistance specifically intended for those women, as part of the implementation of development programmes.

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

Resolution 34/5. Women and development*

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Convinced that development cannot take place without the effective participation of women,

Aware that the slow progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 1/ as related to development necessitates urgent action to be taken by all the parties concerned,

Aware that the debt burden of many developing countries is a matter of concern and that the impact of structural adjustment policies on women in relation both to their participation in economic development and to the support of their families is often negative,

Convinced that the statistical underestimation of women's work in agriculture is one of the major factors contributing to the neglect of female rural workers in many national policies,

Recalling that population issues continue to have both a direct and an indirect effect on the well-being and status of women,

Noting the conclusions of the United Nations Interregional Seminar on Women and the Economic Crisis held at Vienna from 3 to 7 October 1988,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/41 of 24 May 1989 on women and development,

Noting that the progress achieved in the area of disarmament might lead to the freeing of resources in this area,

1. Urges Governments to adopt policies that are sensitive to the relationship of economic growth and the status of women;

2. Requests international financial organizations to search for measures that stimulate the economies of developing countries, while avoiding adverse effects on human well-being;

3. Calls upon Governments and appropriate financial institutions to make greater efforts to support the establishment of co-operatives and rural banks for women to provide small- and medium-scale production, and to include the actual work by women farmers in statistical reporting for the gross national product;

4. Urges international agencies and donor countries to assist women to gain access to credit, revolving funds and guarantee loan schemes, specially those operating in the informal sector;

5. Requests Member States to make provision for specific training programmes for women in rural areas aimed at developing their technical and managerial skills

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

in agriculture and agro-processing industries and other fields, including the environment, water and energy;

6. Appeals to international organizations and donor agencies to give financial support and/or fellowships for the training of women in science and technology;

7. Urges Governments that have not done so to compile and analyse data on morbidity and mortality by gender, focusing on childhood and maternal morbidity and mortality;

8. Requests Governments to take urgent steps to reduce the current unacceptably high maternal mortality rates in a number of developing countries;

9. Reiterates the request to Member States to facilitate access of women and men to family planning, especially in rural areas;

10. Urges Governments to consider redirecting possible savings from disarmament to the improvement of social and economic development, including women's development;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution for submission to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fifth session.

Resolution 34/6. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979, by which the Assembly adopted the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 43/100 and 43/101 of 8 December 1988 and 44/73 of 8 December 1989 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1988/26 of 26 May 1988, 1988/48 of 27 May 1988 and 1989/44 of 24 May 1989,

Recalling Commission resolution 33/3 of 6 April 1989 and noting the deliberations of the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention in 1988,

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

Aware of the general recommendations contained in the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at its seventh 17/ and eighth 18/ sessions,

Taking note of the deliberations of the Fifth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,

Recalling the emphasis placed by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, held at Nairobi from 15-26 July 1985, on the ratification of and accession to the Convention,

1. Welcomes the ratification of or accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by an increasing number of Member States;

2. Urges States parties to the Convention to make all possible efforts to submit their initial implementation reports as well as their second and subsequent periodic reports, in accordance with the Convention, article 18, and the guidelines of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, and to co-operate fully with the Committee in the presentation of their reports;

3. Acknowledges the efforts of the Secretary-General to provide secretariat staff and technical resources for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee;

4. Shares the view of the General Assembly that the Secretary-General should accord higher priority within existing resources to strengthening support for the Committee, and that the additional secretariat resources requested by the Committee should provide for the analysis of texts of intergovernmental bodies and committees of experts to assist the Committee;

5. Welcomes the establishment of the pre-session working group of the Committee to consider second and subsequent periodic reports, which should greatly expedite the work of the Committee, and urges that this practice be continued, within the regular budget allocation;

6. Welcomes the efforts made by the Committee to rationalize its procedures and expedite the consideration of periodic reports and to develop procedures and guidelines for the consideration of second and subsequent periodic reports, and strongly encourages the Committee to continue those efforts;

7. Recognizes the special relevance of the periodic reports of States parties to the Convention to the efforts of the Commission on the Status of Women to review and appraise the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women in those States;

17/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/43/38), para. 770.

18/ Ibid., Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/44/38), para. 392.

8. Welcomes, in accordance with the Committee's general recommendation No. 11, adopted at its eighth session, in 1989, 18/ initiatives to provide regional training courses for government officials on the preparation and drafting of reports of States parties to the Convention, and urges the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations to support such initiatives;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide, facilitate and encourage, within existing resources, the dissemination of public information relating to the Committee, the Convention and the concept of legal literacy, taking into account the Committee's own recommendations to that end;

10. Notes with satisfaction that the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/73, endorsed the Committee's request that its report on the achievements of States parties and obstacles encountered by them in implementing the Convention should be regularly updated, and requested that sufficient resources be provided for that purpose;

11. Recommends that the meetings of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women should be scheduled, wherever possible, to allow for the timely transmission of the results of its work to the Commission on the Status of Women, for information, during the same year.

Resolution 34/7. Recommendations and observations on the International Year of the Family for consideration by the Commission for Social Development*

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/82 of 8 December 1989, proclaimed 1994 as the International Year of the Family and designated the Commission for Social Development as the preparatory body and the Economic and Social Council as the co-ordinating body for the Year,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/37, in which the Council requested the Commission on the Status of Women to make any recommendations and observations it felt desirable concerning the International Year of the Family so that its views could be taken into consideration by the Commission for Social Development,

1. Invites the Commission for Social Development to ensure that all plans, programmes and activities related to the family are in accordance with the concept of equality between women and men as expressed in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 1/ and with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979;

2. Further invites the Commission for Social Development to ensure the incorporation of the principles of the International Year of the Family, as

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

outlined in the report of the Secretary-General, 19/ particularly the principle relating to policies aimed at fostering equality between women and men, into policies and programmes developed for the International Year of the Family;

3. Decides to give further consideration to this matter at subsequent sessions in the light of the preparations for the International Year of the Family being made by the Commission for Social Development;

4. Calls upon the Economic and Social Council to take due account of the need for close co-operation and co-ordination between the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission for Social Development in preparing for the International Year of the Family.

Resolution 34/8. Women and literacy*

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling the special references to and recommendations on women's needs in relation to literacy, education and training contained in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 1/ paragraphs 163-173,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 42/104 of 7 December 1987 proclaiming 1990 as International Literacy Year, and that special emphasis and attention is being given to the importance of literacy for women of all ages,

Recognizing the responsibility of all Governments to develop and support systems of education that provide access to basic and essential literacy and numeracy skills for all its citizens in settings that are accessible and culturally acceptable,

Noting that women play an essential and growing role in marketing, agriculture and services, as well as in micro, small-scale and large-scale enterprises in their countries, and that the literacy of women is associated with their higher productivity and participation in all sectors,

Bearing in mind that the literacy of women lags far behind the literacy of men in many countries, that literacy is critical to the full economic and political participation of women in national life, and that reduced infant morbidity and mortality, extended life expectancy, efficient use of health-care and family-planning services, and education of the next generation are outcomes that have an important relationship to the level of literacy of women,

Recognizing that there is a need to eliminate gender stereo-typing, particularly in relation to education and training,

Recognizing that in many countries there is a significant gap between enrolments and retention levels of girls and boys in basic education programmes,

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

19/ A/44/407.

just as there is a gap in literacy between adult men and women, which denies women of all ages the opportunity of participating fully in national development activities,

1. Encourages the Secretary-General and Member States, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to support efforts to increase literacy by:

(a) Improving the educational opportunities for females of all ages;

(b) Providing basic education to all without discrimination based on gender, and in settings that are accessible and culturally acceptable;

(c) Encouraging the development of gender-specific indicators and measurements for assessing the impact of educational and training efforts in both domestic and international projects and programmes and for assessing the inclusion and participation of women of all ages in those efforts;

2. Urges Member States to disaggregate by gender data on school enrolments, completion, participation and repetition rates;

3. Further urges Member States to eliminate de jure and de facto barriers to schooling for women of all ages;

4. Calls upon Member States to give special attention and emphasis to the guidelines and recommendations as developed for the International Literacy Year, and to implement measures when appropriate;

5. Encourages the Secretary-General, in collaboration with relevant United Nations organizations, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to assist Member States in strengthening strategies to target resources to women of all ages, especially those most disadvantaged, and thereby work towards the elimination of illiteracy of women of all ages;

6. Calls upon Member States to accelerate women's participation in literacy programmes, particularly in areas pertinent to the improvement of their socio-economic condition, including legal literacy and income-generating and skill-building activities;

7. Encourages Member States to increase the number of tutors/trainers to optimize their efforts to reach women, and to increase the participation of non-governmental and private volunteer organizations, particularly women's organizations, in the implementation and management of literacy programmes and in policy and programme development.

Chapter II

PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION MATTERS RELATED TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

4. The Commission considered item 3 of its agenda at its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 26 February 1990.

(a) Extracts from the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, as approved by the General Assembly (A/44/6/Rev.1);

(b) Extracts from the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on its twenty-ninth session (A/44/16, paras. 147-151 and 341-352, and Add.1);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the effective mobilization of women in development (A/44/290);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women (A/44/511);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat (A/C.5/44/17);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on the cross-organizational programme analysis of the activities of the United Nations system for the advancement of women (E/1989/19 and Corr.1).

5. In introducing the item, the Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women noted that 1990 would be the year in which the General Assembly would approve the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, on which the Commission had commented in 1989. The programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 in part incorporated a draft recommendation of the Commission, as reflected in Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/30, that full funding for mandated activities be included in the programme budget. The total funds allocated, however, were not sufficient to cover all mandated activities, although there had been a net increase in comparison with the programme budgets adopted in preceding years. Regarding co-ordination, she drew the attention of the Commission to several reports available to it for information under agenda item 3 and for specific examination on monitoring the implementation of the Strategies under agenda item 5. In conclusion, she said that the Commission could also discuss the preliminary outline of a programme to improve the status of women in the United Nations Secretariat during the period 1991-1995, and the report of the Secretary-General on improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat (A/C.5/44/17).

6. The focal point of the Office for Human Resources Management of the United Nations Secretariat informed the Commission of the progress that had been achieved by that Office in improving the status of women in the Secretariat. During the six months that ended on 31 December 1989, the percentage of women in posts subject to geographical distribution had increased from 26.9 to 27.2. She also described specific action taken by the Office on such matters as vacancy management and staff redeployment, recruitment and placement of women, special emergency measures for all departments and offices of the Secretariat to reach the 30 per cent target, and the monitoring role of the Steering Committee on the Status of Women in the Secretariat.

Programme matters

7. One representative said that the total funds allocated for the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1990-1991 were not sufficient to finance all of the activities of the Division for the Advancement of Women mandated by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission. She noted the value of voluntary contributions to the special trust fund for the monitoring and review and appraisal of the implementation and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies through the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and stressed the need for increased resources for the regular budget financing of programmes of the Division for the Advancement of Women, for the Commission and for the implementation of the Strategies.

Co-ordination matters

8. Several representatives stressed the importance of improved system-wide co-ordination of policies and programmes for the advancement of women. One observer, speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries, said that one of the original ideas concerning the implementation of the Strategies and the system-wide medium-term plan was to ensure that every relevant governing body of the United Nations system would take responsibility within its mandates for advancing the status of women. She especially noted for the implementation of the Strategies the role of the Commission in co-ordinating the work of the United Nations system. The cross-organizational programme analysis was a valuable tool for the follow-up and evaluation of both the implementation of the Strategies and the system-wide medium-term plan. Co-ordination should be based on both mainstreaming and gender-specific policies for the advancement of women.

9. One representative endorsed the proposals contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the effective mobilization of women in development (A/44/290) regarding intergovernmental and intersecretariat co-ordination.

Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations Secretariat

10. Several representatives expressed support for the action taken by the Office for Human Resources Management to improve the status of women in the Secretariat, while regretting that the target of women occupying 30 per cent of posts subject to geographical distribution had yet to be achieved. They also noted that there had not been a significant increase in the appointment and promotion of women to senior policy- and decision-making posts. Several representatives suggested that additional measures should be taken to reach that target, and one representative proposed that a new target of 35 per cent should be set for 1995.

11. A few representatives said that Member States had a responsibility to assist the Secretariat by establishing internal rosters of qualified women candidates and by sharing those rosters with the Office for Human Resources Management. One representative called upon the governing councils of organs and agencies within the United Nations system to adopt similar resolutions to help promote the advancement of women and called for the support of Member States in encouraging the Secretary-General in his role as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to promote such measures throughout the system. Another representative regretted that a more detailed outline of the Programme for the improvement of women in the United Nations Secretariat for the period 1991-1995 was not available to the Commission, but expressed satisfaction that the Steering Committee on the Status of Women in the Secretariat had been re-established.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION

Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

12. At the 7th meeting, on 1 March, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf of Argentina, 20/ Austria, Colombia, Denmark, 20/ Ecuador, Finland, 20/ the German Democratic Republic, Guatemala, the Philippines, Poland, Spain, 20/ Sweden, Thailand, Turkey and Zaire, subsequently joined by Egypt and Venezuela, 20/ introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.2) entitled "Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat".

13. At the 13th meeting, on 6 March, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf of Argentina, 20/ Australia Austria, the Bahamas, Canada, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, 20/ Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, 20/ the German Democratic Republic, Guatemala, Ireland, 20/ Malaysia, Morocco, New Zealand, 20/ the Philippines, Poland, Spain, 20/ Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, the United States of America and Zaire, introduced a revised draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.2/Rev.1).

14. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the revised draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I).

20/ In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

Chapter III

PRIORITY THEMES

15. The Commission considered item 4 of its agenda at its 3rd to 7th meetings, on 27 and 28 February and 1 March 1990. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on equality in political participation and decision-making (E/CN.6/1990/2 and Corr.1);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on negative effects of the international economic situation on the improvement of the status of women (E/CN.6/1990/3);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on women in areas affected by armed conflicts, foreign intervention, alien and colonial domination, foreign occupation and threats to peace (E/CN.6/1990/4).

16. The Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women introduced the item. On the three objectives, she said that the Commission might wish to make recommendations in pursuance of the Secretary-General's reports, in particular on an interregional consultation on women in public life planned for 1991 as proposed by the Commission in resolution 33/2 of 6 April 1989 and endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in decision 1989/129 of 24 May 1989.

A. Equality: Equality in political participation and decision-making

17. The recommendations of the Group of Experts on Equality in Political Participation and Decision-making (E/CN.6/1990/2 and Corr.1, annex) received general support. Many representatives noted that the participation of women in parliaments, executive bodies and public service had remained low in spite of recent increases, a situation which was said to be inherent in the functioning of the system itself and not the result of women's characteristics and social roles. To change the situation, they noted that selection procedures in political structures and bodies should be modified. Some representatives said that gender analyses were necessary in political decision-making and that the situation of women could be changed by the election of representatives of women's interests. One representative said that her Government had given a grant for the preparation of a "state-of-the-art" study based on the material from the meeting of the Group of Experts. Many representatives said that without equality in political participation and decision-making, efforts for the advancement of women would continue to be at risk.

18. Several representatives said that the acceptance and practice of equality in all spheres of life should be a basic principle of democracy. A few representatives, recalling that women constituted approximately half of the world's population and had specific interests, said that women should have an impact on the content of policies.

19. A few representatives said that even when women held public office they remained underrepresented in the professions and business. A few representatives said that the structures and policies of the European Economic Community could be

used as guidelines for Governments. One representative said that transition to a pluralistic system had brought positive changes to the situation of women.

20. Some representatives noted that few women participated in decision-making bodies related to peace, conflict resolution and disarmament at national and international levels. One representative commended the pilot case study on Sweden and suggested that other Governments use it as a guide. A few representatives reported an increase of women in the foreign service.

21. Noting the situation of women in the United Nations Secretariat at the decision-making levels, many representatives said that more women should be recruited at those levels, for the Secretariat should be a model for public administration.

22. Noting the existence of obstacles hindering the participation of women in political decision-making, many representatives pointed to cultural and traditional barriers. A few representatives said that women often considered that political decision-making was male dominated and preferred alternative forms of politics.

23. Many representatives stressed the importance of education for eliminating gender discrimination and creating equality for employment.

24. A few representatives said that the female child often lived in an atmosphere of inequality within the family and that mothers, sisters and other adult family members had a role to play in redressing that situation. One representative noted the importance of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989. Many representatives said that the burden of family responsibilities should be shared equitably and that recommendations for the International Year of the Family in 1994 should take that into account.

25. A few representatives and observers stressed the need for the involvement of elderly women and women students in political decision-making and for the involvement of disabled women in relevant training projects.

B. Development: Negative effects of the international economic situation on the improvement of the status of women

26. Many representatives considered that the United Nations should play a role in eliminating the negative effects of the international economic situation on women. One representative said that due attention should be given to that matter at the special session of the General Assembly devoted to international economic co-operation and that it should be one of the goals of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade.

27. Several representatives said that the grave economic conditions in the developing countries that suffered from an unjust international economic order were factors contributing to the social condition of women in development. They said that the international economic situation and the debt crisis had caused a decline in the advancement of women in developing countries because in periods of economic hardship, programmes for women were given less priority.

28. Several representatives said that structural adjustment policies generated problems for the situation of women. One representative mentioned that in her country, adjustment policies created opportunities for economic development, although women's participation in the labour market continued to be limited to low productivity sectors. A few representatives said that reductions in public expenditure had a negative impact on education, health and other services resulting in a marginalization of the weaker members of society, in particular women. One representative feared that society would develop a two-standard economy, where women would be given a lower status with lower paid jobs, leading to the feminization of poverty.

29. A few representatives identified various groups of women who were especially vulnerable to the economic situation. Some insisted that attention should be paid to the situation of rural women, who lacked access to health and education services, women heads of households, elderly women, disabled women and women refugees; those women should be given priority in national plans, international action and specific programmes.

30. A few representatives said that factors other than the debt crisis or adjustment policies had affected the status of women, such as demographic changes, urbanization, industrialization and modernization, as well as the evolution of traditional values. Unemployment and declining living standards, however, were described as inevitable effects of those changes. Several representatives expressed their agreement on the conclusion reached in the 1989 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development and by the United Nations Interregional Seminar on Women and the Economic Crisis, held at Vienna in October 1988, that the crisis, while having a negative impact on women in many respects, could provide, indeed force, a rethinking of approaches to development. Many representatives expressed their support for the recommendations made in the report of the Secretary-General but some felt that it had failed to stress the need for the resumption of economic growth and development.

31. A few representatives said that a development strategy to be sustainable should take into account the reality of women's lives. Some representatives stressed the productive aspect of investments in female education, health and promoting equality.

32. A few representatives considered that specific programmes for women could marginalize them; however, others felt that specific women's programmes were complementary to the mainstream of development programmes. Many representatives felt that national machinery, non-governmental organizations and women's groups were key factors in reducing the negative effects on women of the international economic situation and, as such, should be given adequate support for their policy formulation and programme planning. A few observers noted the problems caused by increased unemployment and the lack of income programmes for the unemployed.

33. Several representatives stressed the need for programmes aiming at alleviating the double burden of women. One representative noted the link between family planning and women's economic and social participation. A few representatives mentioned the development of the informal sector and of flexible and uncertain forms of employment for women. A few observers expressed the need to measure women's unremunerated work in the informal sector and in the domestic sphere.

C. Peace: Women in areas affected by armed conflicts, foreign intervention, alien and colonial domination, foreign occupation and threats to peace

34. A few representatives stated that armed conflicts and emergency situations imposed a serious threat to the lives of women and children, and they paid tribute to those organizations that protected and supported women and children in often difficult and dangerous conditions. Several representatives stressed the importance of the legal protection of refugee women and children, especially in the areas affected by armed conflicts. One representative recalled the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation (General Assembly resolution 37/63 of 3 December 1982) and the Declaration on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflicts (General Assembly resolution 3318 (XXIX) of 14 December 1974).

35. One representative said that her country agreed to provide $US 2 million over a five-year period to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, aimed at women refugees in Africa. Another representative said that her country would welcome any suggestions on how to assist refugees, as it could not bear the burden of supporting the growing number of refugees in view of its own meagre resources.

36. Several representatives said that major causes of the persisting tension and threat of war in the world were the arms race and nuclear weapons and stressed the need for disarmament. They welcomed the improvement in East-West relations as an opportunity of ending military competition and of increasing the resources available for economic and social development.

37. A few representatives said that violence against women in their families and in society and discrimination against women because of their race, sex or religious beliefs were continuing.

38. A few representatives noted that drug abuse and drug trafficking problems too commonly had a negative impact and harmful implications for women. They stressed the need to adopt measures aimed at drug eradication.

39. Several representatives said that peace could not be achieved without eradicating poverty, injustice and disease. International security should be defined in economic as well as military terms and take into account such non-military threats to security as sharply reduced prospects for economic growth and social development, unemployment, resource scarcity and environmental degradation.

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ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION

Equality in political participation and decision-making

40. At the 11th meeting, on 5 March, the representative of Sweden, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, 21/ Finland, 21/ France, the German Democratic Republic, Greece, 21/ Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, the Netherlands, 21/ Nigeria, Norway, 21/ the Philippines, Poland, Spain, 21/ Sweden, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Zimbabwe, subsequently joined by Ecuador, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Lesotho, New Zealand, 21/ Pakistan, Portugal, 21/ the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, 21/ the United States of America and Zaire, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.8) entitled "Equality in political participation and decision-making" and orally revised it by deleting the words "by the findings in the report of the Secretary-General on equality in political participation and decision-making" after the words "Gravely concerned" in the fourth preambular paragraph.

41. At the 15th meeting, on 8 March, the Secretary of the Commission, on the basis of informal consultations, read out a further revision to the draft resolution, by which, in the eighth preambular paragraph, the words "have universal validity" were replaced by the words "reflect universal views".

42. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution II).

Women and the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse

43. At the 11th meeting, on 5 March, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of Argentina, 21/ Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico and Venezuela, 21/ subsequently joined by Bolivia, 21/ Canada, Czechoslovakia, France, Ghana, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, the Philippines, Portugal, 21/ Sweden and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.4) entitled "Women and the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse".

44. At the 15th meeting, on 8 March, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of Argentina, 21/ Bolivia, 21/ Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, France, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, the Philippines, Portugal, 21/ Sweden, the United States of America, Venezuela, 21/ and Zimbabwe, subsequently joined by Brazil, the German Democratic Republic, the Netherlands, 21/ Pakistan, Thailand, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic 21/ and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, introduced a revised draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.4/Rev.1).

45. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the revised draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 34/1).

21/ In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

Refugee and displaced women

46. At the 11th meeting, on 5 March, the representative of Canada, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Canada, Costa Rica, Nigeria, Sweden, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Zambia, 21/ subsequently joined by Algeria, 21/ Angola, 21/ Ecuador, the Federal Republic of Germany, 21/ Guatemala, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Philippines, the Sudan, Switzerland, 21/ Turkey and Zaire, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.5) entitled "Refugee and displaced women".

47. At the 15th meeting, on 8 March, the Commission had before it a revised draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.5/Rev.1) submitted by Algeria, 21/ Angola, 21/ Australia, Austria, Canada, Costa Rica, Ecuador, the Federal Republic of Germany 21/ Guatemala, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Nigeria, the Philippines, the Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, 21/ Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Zaire, Zambia, 21/ and Zimbabwe, subsequently joined by the German Democratic Republic, Italy, Norway, 21/ the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America.

48. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the revised draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 34/2).

Women and economic growth

49. At the 11th meeting, on 5 March, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf of Egypt, France, the German Democratic Republic, the Holy See, 21/ Israel, 21/ Italy, Malaysia, Poland, Switzerland, 21/ Thailand, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America and Zaire, subsequently joined by Czechoslovakia and Portugal, 21/ introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.6) entitled "Women and economic growth".

50. At the 15th meeting, on 8 March, the Commission had before it a revised draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.6/Rev.1) sponsored by Czechoslovakia, France, the German Democratic Republic, the Holy See, 21/ Italy, Malaysia, Poland, Portugal, 21/ Switzerland, 21/ Thailand, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America and Zaire, subsequently joined by Australia, Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, 21/ Hungary, 21/ Morocco, New Zealand, 21/ Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland 21/ and Zimbabwe.

51. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Commission informed the Commission that, on the basis of informal consultations, it had been agreed to delete the word "actively" before the word "providing" in the second preambular paragraph.

52. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 34/3).

Women and situations of extreme vulnerability

53. At the 11th meeting, on 5 March, the representative of France, on behalf of Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, France, Italy and Turkey, subsequently joined by Austria, China, Costa Rica, the German Democratic Republic, Greece, 21/ Guatemala, Hungary, 21/ Indonesia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Portugal, 21/ the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic 21/ and Zaire, introduced a draft

resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.7) entitled "Women and situations of extreme vulnerability".

54. At the 16th meeting, on 8 March, the Secretary of the Commission read out the following revisions to the draft resolution agreed upon as a result of informal consultations:

(a) In the first preambular paragraph, the words "single women as heads of families" were replaced by the words "women as heads of households";

(b) In the third preambular paragraph, the word "extreme" before the word "vulnerability" was deleted;

(c) In operative paragraph 1, the words "on behalf of" were replaced by the words "in favour of" and the word "families" was replaced by the word "households";

(d) Operative paragraph 1 (a), which had read "Remedy their situation of vulnerability", was revised to read "Improve their situation";

(e) Operative paragraph 1 (c), which had read:

"Ensure their enjoyment of the existing general provisions, both national and international, with a view to the balanced development of society",

was revised to read:

"Ensure that they have the opportunity to contribute to, as well as share in, the benefits of development";

(f) In operative paragraph 2, the words "on behalf of" were replaced by the words "in favour of".

55. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (chap. I, sect. C, resolution 34/4).

Women and development

56. At the 13th meeting, on 6 March, the representative of the Sudan, on behalf of the African States that are members of the Commission, subsequently joined by China and Lebanon, 21/ on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.9) entitled "Women and development".

57. At the 17th meeting, on 9 March, the Commission had before it a revised draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.9/Rev.1).

58. At the same meeting, the Deputy Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women made a statement on the programme budget implications of the revised draft resolution.

59. At the 18th meeting, on 9 March, the representative of the Sudan, on behalf of the sponsors, further revised draft resolution E/CN.6/1990/L.9/Rev.1 by replacing operative paragraph 10, which had read:

"10. Urges Governments to redirect a portion of the savings from disarmament to the improvement of women's social and economic status particularly in developing countries, while further appealing to the forthcoming conference on the least developed countries to be held in Paris to adopt a similar recommendation",

by the following text:

"10. Urges Governments to consider redirecting possible savings from disarmament to the improvement of social and economic development, including women's development".

60. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the revised draft resolution, as further revised orally, by 36 votes to none, with 1 abstention 22/ (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 34/5).

61. After the adoption of the revised draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Canada and the United States of America.

22/ Two delegations subsequently indicated that, had they been present during the vote, they would have voted in favour of the revised draft resolution, as further revised orally.

Chapter IV

MONITORING AND REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAIROBI FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

62. The Commission considered item 5 of its agenda at its 8th to 12th meetings, on 1, 2 and 5 March 1990. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on progress at the national, regional and international levels in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women (E/CN.6/1990/5);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General containing draft recommendations and conclusions arising from the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women (E/CN.6/1990/6);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women (E/CN.6/1990/7);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women regarding women and children in Namibia (E/CN.6/1990/8 and Corr.1);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women regarding women and children living under apartheid (E/CN.6/1990/9);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of Palestinian women in the occupied territories (E/CN.6/1990/10).

63. In addition, the following documents were available to the Commission for its information:

(a) Reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its eighth and ninth sessions (A/44/38 and A/45/38);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/44/457);

(c) 1989 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development (ST/CSDHA/6);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the preparation for and observance of an international family year (A/44/407).

64. The Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women introduced the item. She expressed disappointment that only 55 Member States had answered the questionnaire distributed by the Secretariat for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. She recalled that the Commission had been invited to make recommendations to the Economic and Social Council on the world conferences to be held during the 1990s and on the 1994 International Year of the Family.

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

65. Many representatives emphasized the importance of national machinery for the implementation of the Strategies. Several representatives reported that such machinery had been strengthened by specific policies and programmes concerned with women. However, such initiatives required better data and more resources for follow-up. Several representatives stressed the need for co-operation between national machinery for the advancement of women and international assistance.

66. Many representatives, noting the difficulties in implementing the Strategies, said that basic problems had been aggravated by the economic crisis and adjustment policies, and stressed the need for minimizing their impact on women, who were in a weaker position to cope with the situation owing to their multiple roles. A few representatives urged the adoption of adjustment policies with a human face, which would reduce cuts in social services. Several representatives, noting that their countries were undergoing rapid change, said that women bore the brunt of the new socio-economic problems.

67. Several representatives called for cross-sectoral strategies, national policies for women in development, and a comprehensive system of social and family support policies linking the implementation of the Strategies and the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Many representatives said that women should be involved in all phases of planning to ensure access to education and skills, especially technical, and to basic services for health and family planning.

68. Concerning equality, several representatives noted the democratization process taking place in the world leading to new legal guarantees for the equality of men and women, and more concrete identification of women's rights. However, little progress had been achieved in social, political and economic participation. They said that few women occupied positions in decision-making bodies, that women's double burden hindered their participation and that traditional concepts and social attitudes ignored women's abilities and values. Several representatives noted the value of setting targets to accelerate women's participation, and the important role of non-governmental organizations in the achievement of de facto equality. Several representatives stressed the need to combat the stereotyping of women in the mass media and in school-books. Many representatives considered that while there often was legislation on pay equity, the gap between the average wages of men and women had not changed.

69. Regarding development, several representatives stressed the impact of the economic crisis and adjustment policies on women, leading to the feminization of poverty. Many representatives said that job segregation was a continuing obstacle to the integration of women and stressed the need for training and support services for women in the labour force. Noting the situation of rural women, many representatives stressed the need for education and skills, particularly in technical and non-traditional fields, and for access to land and credit. Several representatives stressed the importance of reducing the maternal mortality rate and of initiating family planning, particularly in rural areas. One representative stressed the need for the increased participation of women in combating AIDS.

70. Concerning peace, many representatives stated that armed conflicts, foreign intervention, alien and colonial domination and foreign occupation remained obstacles to implementing the Strategies. Many representatives noted positive developments, particularly in Africa, but considered much remained to be achieved before the system of apartheid was abolished. Many representatives stressed the need for the participation of women in the resolution of conflicts, in the democratization process and in the processes leading to political change. A few representatives said that disarmament could lead to new resources for development. One representative mentioned the risk posed by nuclear power, even when used for peaceful purposes, and the danger for women.

71. With regard to areas of special concern, several representatives stressed the need for support for women as heads of households, migrant and refugee women, elderly women and disabled women. Many representatives noted the importance of eliminating violence against women due to external situations and within the family.

72. Regarding future action, many representatives said that political and administrative changes were required to integrate women in the processes leading to equality, development and peace. Several representatives stressed the urgent need for reaffirmation of political commitment to the advancement of women. One representative said that the review and appraisal should result in more accurate information and should identify practical policies for implementing the Strategies.

Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

73. Many representatives said that the implementation process should be accelerated by the organizations of the United Nations system. Several representatives, however, pointed out that the United Nations Secretariat, which should be a model for public administration, had failed to meet the target of 30 per cent for women in professional decision-making positions by 1990.

Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women regarding women and children in Namibia

74. Many representatives welcomed the independence of Namibia, which, however, did not mean the end of problems for women in that country, and urged continued international support for them. Several representatives noted the contribution of Namibian women to the struggle for independence and their active participation in the recent elections. They considered that the recent developments in Namibia meant new hope for women in the southern part of Africa. One representative expressed the hope that Namibia would soon sign the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women regarding women and children under apartheid

75. Many representatives welcomed the recent developments in South Africa, particularly the release from prison of Nelson Mandela, but considered that action was needed to release the remaining political prisoners. Some representatives noted the prospect of dialogue between the liberation movements and what they termed the apartheid régime of that country. Many representatives called for the

fight to dismantle that system to continue through increased international pressure and sanctions. One representative reported on those who had fled from apartheid to neighbouring countries.

Situation of Palestinian women

76. Many representatives noted the suffering of Palestinian women in the occupied territories, and commended the mission of experts and the conclusions contained in their report (E/CN.6/1990/10, annex I). They expressed regret, however, that the mission had not been authorized to enter the occupied territories. One observer stated that, although her country had not accepted that particular mission, other missions had come to her country. She said that her Government would reconsider its position on a fact-finding mission if such a request were not part of a resolution that was condemnatory.

Communications concerning the status of women

77. On 26 February and 5 and 9 March, a list of confidential communications on the status of women (S.W. Communications list No. 24 and Corr.1 and Add.1-3) was distributed in a sealed envelope to the representatives of each State member of the Commission attending the thirty-fourth session.

78. At the 2nd meeting, on 26 February, the Commission appointed a working group on communications on the status of women. The working group held three closed meetings.

79. The working group submitted its report to the Commission at a closed meeting. The working group had analysed 29 communications and 18 replies of Governments and identified trends of instances of de facto discrimination against women in the areas of employment conditions, denial of equality before the law, women's health and, most seriously, physical violence against women in detention. That issue had been addressed in three previous reports of the working group and, in view of the continuing trend, the working group proposed that the Commission, in keeping with its mandate, should consider recommending appropriate action to the Economic and Social Council. The Commission adopted the report. One representative suggested that the consideration of communications should be annual and that the Commission should strengthen existing procedures for the receipt and consideration of communications and should introduce practical mechanisms to propose action on them. She said that those procedures should be more widely known.

World conferences to review and appraise the progress achieved in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

80. Many representatives supported the convening of another United Nations world conference in 1995 as consistent with the schedule of review and appraisal already adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 43/101. Several representatives, noting the cost of such a conference, suggested that it should take place at Vienna, thus benefiting from the services of the Division for the Advancement of Women. One representative suggested the holding of a parallel forum. Several representatives considered that, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/20, the Commission on the Status of Women should be the preparatory body for the world conference.

International Year of the Family

81. Many representatives said that the International Year of the Family was important for the advancement of women. They suggested that the Year should be used for strengthening the concept of equality between women and men, including the need for sharing responsibilities. One representative considered that the activities for the Year should be aimed at the promotion of employment opportunities and economic independence for women.

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION

Physical violence against detained women that is specific to their sex

82. At the 14th meeting, on 7 March, the representative of Australia, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Canada, Morocco, Poland and Sweden, subsequently joined by Costa Rica, the Federal Republic of Germany, 23/ Italy, New Zealand, 23/ Nigeria, the Philippines, Portugal, 23/ Turkey, the United States of America and Switzerland, 23/ introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.18) entitled "Physical violence against detained women that is specific to their sex".

83. At the 15th meeting, on 8 March, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution III).

Women and children in Namibia

84. At the 13th meeting, on 6 March, the observer for Lebanon, 23/ on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, subsequently joined by China, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.10) entitled "Women and children in Namibia".

85. At the 16th meeting, on 8 March, the Secretary of the Commission read out the following revisions to the draft resolution agreed upon during informal consultations:

(a) At the end of the third preambular paragraph, the words "and independence" were added;

(b) In operative paragraph 3, the world "all" after the word "provide" was deleted;

(c) In operative paragraph 4, the word "returning" was inserted before the words "Namibian women".

86. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution IV).

Central American women: equality, development and peace

87. At the 14th meeting, on 7 March, the representative of Guatemala, on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean States that are members of the Commission and Spain, 23/ subsequently joined by Argentina, 23/ Bolivia, 23/ Italy, Portugal 23/ and Venezuela, 23/ introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.12) entitled "Central American women: equality, development and peace".

88. At the 16th meeting, on 8 March, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution V).

23/ In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

89. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Costa Rica made a statement.

Communications concerning the status of women

90. At the 14th meeting, on 7 March, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, 23/ Egypt, the Federal Republic of Germany, 23/ Italy, the Netherlands, 23/ New Zealand, 23/ Norway, 23/ Morocco, the Philippines, Portugal, 23/ Spain, 23/ Sweden, Switzerland, 23/ the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Zaire and Zimbabwe, subsequently joined by Canada, Czechoslovakia, Pakistan and Poland, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.22) entitled "Communications concerning the status of women".

91. At the 16th meeting, on 8 March, on the basis of informal consultations, the Secretary of the Commission read out a revision to the operative paragraph of the draft resolution by which the words "in consultation with Governments" were inserted after the words "to examine".

92. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution VI).

93. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Brazil and Cuba and the observer for Spain.

Second report on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

94. At the 14th meeting, on 7 March, the observer for Lebanon, 23/ on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.21) entitled "Second report on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women".

95. At the 16th meeting, on 8 March, on the basis of informal consultations, the Secretary of the Commission read out the following revisions to the draft resolution:

(a) In the fourth preambular paragraph, the words "more detailed and systematic information" were replaced by the words "disaggregated information";

(b) In operative paragraph 1, "available national reports and analyses of" were inserted before the words "statistical data";

(c) In operative paragraph 2 (a), the words "Information on data being used" were replaced by the words "Information on data that will be used";

(d) Operative paragraph 3, which had read: "Further requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fifth session concerning the financial situation of the activities in favour of women within the United Nations system," was deleted.

96. At the same meeting, the representative of Canada proposed that in operative paragraph 1 the word "available" after the word "data" be deleted.

97. Statements were made by the representative of Mexico and the Deputy Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women.

98. The amendment was then accepted by the sponsors.

99. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution VII).

Integration of women in the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade

100. At the 15th meeting, on 8 March, the representative of Canada, on behalf of Austria, Canada, Ghana, Nigeria, the Philippines, the Sudan, Sweden, Turkey and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, subsequently joined by Australia, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Indonesia, Italy, Morocco, Spain, 23/ the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic 23/ and the United States of America, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.24) entitled "Integration of women in the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade".

101. At the 16th meeting, on 8 March, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution VIII).

Situation of Palestinian women

102. At the 14th meeting, on 7 March, the representative of the Sudan, on behalf of Algeria, 23/ Burkina Faso, Cuba, Cyprus, Egypt, India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, 23/ Kuwait, 23/ Lebanon, 23/ Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Sudan, Tunisia, 23/ the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, 23/ the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia 23/ and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.11) entitled "Situation of Palestinian women".

103. At the 17th meeting, on 9 March, the Commission had before it a revised draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.11/Rev.1).

104. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Commission, on behalf of the sponsors, read out revisions to the revised draft resolution, by which, in operative paragraph 5, the words "drastic deterioration of the" before the word "situation" would be deleted.

105. At the same meeting, the Deputy Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women made a statement on the programme budget implications of the revised draft resolution.

106. At the same meeting, after hearing a statement by the representative of the United States of America, the Commission adopted the revised draft resolution, as orally revised, by a roll-call vote of 28 to 1, with 14 abstentions (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution IX). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Austria, Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Sudan, Sweden, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Bahamas, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechoslovakia, France, Gabon, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Poland, Thailand, Zaire.

107. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Sweden, Czechoslovakia, Canada, Poland, France, Japan and the German Democratic Republic. The representative of Egypt also made a statement.

World conference on women in 1995

108. At the 14th meeting, on 7 March, the observer for Lebanon, 23/ on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, China and Denmark, 23/ subsequently joined by Austria, Czechoslovakia, the Federal Republic of Germany, 23/ Greece, 23/ the Netherlands, 23/ Portugal, 23/ Spain 23/ and Turkey, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.13) entitled "World conference on women in 1995".

109. At the 17th meeting, on 9 March, the Secretary of the Commission, on the basis of informal consultations, informed the Commission that, in operative paragraph 2, the words "Requests the Secretary-General to designate the Commission on the Status of Women as the preparatory body for the world conference and requests the Commission to include" had been replaced by the words "Requests the Commission on the Status of Women, as the preparatory body for the world conference, to include".

110. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution X).

Women and children under apartheid

111. At the 14th meeting, on 7 March, the observer for Lebanon, 23/ on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.14) entitled "Women and children under apartheid".

112. At the 17th meeting, on 9 March, the Secretary of the Commission, on behalf of the sponsors, read out the following revisions to the draft resolution:

(a) In the fifth preambular paragraph, the words "the struggle for national liberation and self-determination of the people of South Africa against the racist régime of Pretoria" was replaced by the words "the struggle towards a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa";

(b) Operative paragraph 6, was renumbered 4 and the words "an increasing number of women and children" were replaced by the words "many women and children"; existing paragraphs 4 and 5 were renumbered 5 and 6.

113. At the same meeting, after a statement by the representative of the United States of America, the Commission adopted the draft resolution by a roll-call vote of 39 to 1, with 3 abstentions (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution XI). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Egypt, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lesotho, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: France, Italy, Japan.

114. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Japan, Canada and France.

Action to increase awareness of the slow progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

115. At the 14th meeting, on 7 March, the observer for Lebanon, 23/ on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.20) entitled "Action to increase awareness of the slow progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women".

116. At the 16th meeting, on 8 March, the observer for Lebanon, 23/ on the basis of informal consultations, read out the following revisions to the draft resolution:

(a) In the second preambular paragraph, the words "progress in achieving the full integration of women in development on the full participation of women in peace has slowed or halted" were replaced by the words "progress in de facto equality is slow in both developing and developed countries";

(b) In the fourth preambular paragraph, the words "as well as slow or no progress in achieving the full integration of women in development or the full participation of women in peace" were added at the end of the paragraph;

(c) The fifth preambular paragraph, which had read:

"Conscious of the fact that many national machineries for the advancement of women lack the necessary technology and resources to mobilize information and policies in favour of the status of women",

was revised to read:

"Conscious of the fact that, in many countries, the national machinery for the advancement of women lacks the necessary technology and resources to gather and disseminate information or to formulate policies in favour of the status of women";

(d) In operative paragraph 3, the words "through the Commission on the Status of Women" were inserted after the words "at its first regular session of 1991".

117. At the same meeting, after a statement by the representative of Brazil, the representative of Canada proposed that the word "additional" in operative paragraph 1 be replaced by the word "renewed". This amendment was accepted by the sponsors.

118. The Deputy Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women made a statement on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

119. At the 17th meeting, on 9 March, the observer for Lebanon, 23/ on the basis of informal consultations, revised the third preambular paragraph of the draft resolution by replacing the words "the prolonged international debt crisis and adjustment policies" by the words "the growing burden of debt and reduction of public expenditures for social programmes, as part of unavoidable adjustment-oriented policies".

120. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution XII).

Recommendations and conclusions arising from the first review and and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the year 2000

121. At the 16th meeting, on 8 March, the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mrs. Mervat Talaway (Egypt), orally proposed a draft resolution entitled "Recommendations and conclusions arising from the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the year 2000". The proposal was based on the work of the committee of the whole established at the 2nd meeting, on 26 February, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/32. The draft resolution was subsequently issued as document E/CN.6/1990/L.25.

122. At the 17th meeting, the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mrs. Talawy (Egypt), informed the Commission that operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution had been omitted from the text. It read as follows:

"4. Further requests the Secretary-General to include information on the implementation of the recommendations in his biennial monitoring report and in the report on the second regular review and appraisal of the Forward-looking Strategies".

She also informed the Commission that, as a result of further informal consultations, the annex to the draft resolution had been revised, as follows:

(a) In paragraph 9, the words "[and hyperinflation]" after the words "unequal patterns of income distribution" were deleted;

(b) In paragraph 14, the words "[policies/subsidies which benefit urban population at the expense of rural population]" were deleted and the square brackets around the words "that has shifted resources to export-oriented farmers" were removed.

123. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America requested that the following reservations of her Government be reflected in the report of the Commission:

"Equal pay for work of equal value

"The United States reserves its position on paragraph 5 and recommendation V; specifically, the United States Government does not agree with the concept of 'equal pay for work of equal value'. We maintain the principle of 'equal pay for equal work'.

"Economic development

"The United States reserves its position on paragraphs 9 and 14. We believe these paragraphs are unbalanced and fundamentally misleading. They suggest that external economic developments are the principal reasons for the adverse effects of the economic crisis upon women. Actually, poor economic performance in some developing countries has been largely the result of inappropriate domestic economic policies which have discouraged investment, encouraged capital flight, debased individual currencies, and discouraged savings through hyperinflation. Any statement on the economic problems of developing countries has to be balanced between domestic and external causes for the economic crisis.

"Secondly, some developing countries with the largest economies and populations have shown substantial increases in economic growth over the last ten years. We blieve that the paragraphs should be more specifically addressed to the problem of countries in Africa and Latin America where the economic problems of the last ten years may have led to a decline in economic well-being for most women.

"Thirdly, we believe the language referring to adjustment policies suggests that these policies are part of the problem for women in development. The United States believes, however, that these policies, if fully implemented, are part of the solution of low growth in developing countries and ultimately will benefit all women.

"Fourthly, we believe that the shift to export-oriented farmers has not deprived rural women of vital resource, but rather, imperfect linkages in the economies of developing countries have prevented increased exports from being translated into higher rural incomes.

"Development and disarmament

"The United States reserves its position on paragraph 21 and recommendation XIX which urges Governments to redirect savings from disarmament to the improvement of social and economic development, including women's development. As we have stated on many other occasions in other fora, the United States believes that disarmament and development are two distinct issues that need to be considered separately and on their own respective merits. Moreover, it is the sovereign right of each state to decide how it shall determine its own budgetary priorities, including the uses to which its resources shall be put.

Transnational transmission technologies

"On recommendation XXII, the United States reserves its position that the studies envisioned in this recommendation must lead to censorship or other restrictions on the freedom of expression guaranteed by several international instruments as well as the first amendment to the Constitution of the United States."

124. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution XIII).

125. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Canada and Japan.

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

126. At the 14th meeting, on 7 March, the representative of Australia, on behalf of Australia, Austria, China, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, 23/ Ecuador, Finland, 23/ Gabon, the Federal Republic of Germany, 23/ Ghana, Greece, 23/ Guatemala, Ireland, 23/ Italy, Japan, New Zealand, 23/ Norway, 23/ Poland, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic 23/ and Zimbabwe, subsequently joined by Angola, 23/ Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Egypt, the German Democratic Republic, Indonesia, Iraq, 23/ Nigeria, the Philippines, Spain, 23/ the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 23/ the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia, 23/ introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.17) entitled "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women".

127. At the 15th meeting, on 8 March, the representative of Australia, on behalf of the sponsors, orally revised the draft resolution by:

(a) Inserting a new fifth preambular paragraph, which read:

"Taking note of the deliberations of the Fifth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention";

(b) Deleting operative paragraph 4, which had read:

"4. Shares the concern expressed by the Committee that its recommendations should be readily accessible to States parties and consistent with recommendations adopted by committees of experts and intergovernmental bodies dealing with the advancement of women or human rights issues";

(c) Inserting after operative paragraph 7 (former paragraph 8) a new operative paragraph, which read:

"Welcomes, in accordance with the Committee's general recommendation No. 11, initiatives to provide regional training courses for government officials on the preparation and drafting of reports of States parties to the Convention and urges the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations to support such initiatives".

128. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 34/6).

Recommendations and observations on the International Year of the Family for consideration by the Commission for Social Development

129. At the 14th meeting, on 7 March, the representative of Australia, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, 23/ the Federal Republic of Germany, 23/ the Holy See, 23/ Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, 23/ Poland, Spain, 23/ the Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, 23/ subsequently joined by Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Ecuador, France, Gabon, the German Democratic Republic, Greece, 23/ Guatemala, Iraq, 23/ Italy, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Portugal, 23/ Uganda, Zaire and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.19) entitled "Recommendations and observations on the International Year of the Family for consideration by the Commission for Social Development.

130. At the 15th meeting, on 8 March, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics orally proposed that the following operative paragraph be added at the end of the draft resolution:

"Calls upon the Economic and Social Council to take due account of the need for close co-operation between the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission for Social Development in preparing for the International Year of the Family".

131. At the same meeting, the representative of Brazil proposed the insertion of the words "and co-ordination" after the word "co-operation" in the above paragraph.

132. At the 16th meeting, on 8 March, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics orally proposed that the following paragraph replace the text he had proposed at the 15th meeting:

"Recommends consultations and close co-operation between the Commission for Social Development and the Commission on the Status of Women so as to enable the Commission for Social Development to take into account the views

expressed by the Commission on the Status of Women in preparing for the International Year of the Family".

133. Statements were made by the representatives of Brazil and Italy.

134. The Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Ms. Patricia Licuanan (Philippines), informed the Commission that during informal consultations it had been agreed to accept the amendment proposed by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics at the 15th meeting, as amended by the representative of Brazil (see paras. 130 and 131 above). The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics withdrew the amendment proposed at the 16th meeting.

135. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 34/7).

Women and literacy

136. At the 15th meeting, on 8 March, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf of Colombia, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Guatemala, the Holy See, 23/ Hungary, 23/ Italy, Jamaica, Malaysia, Morocco, Poland, the Sudan (on behalf of the African States that are members of the Commission on the Status of Women), Switzerland, 23/ Thailand, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, subsequently joined by Algeria, 23/ Côte d'Ivoire and Morocco, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.23) entitled "Women and literacy".

137. At the 17th meeting, on 9 March, the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Ms. Patricia Licuanan (Philippines), on the basis of informal consultations, revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) The fourth preambular paragraph, which had read:

"Recognizing that countries are actively seeking to establish strong economic and social systems in which all citizens can participate fully and constructively",

(b) The sixth preambular paragraph (former seventh), which had read:

"Recognizing that there is an urgent need to eliminate stereotypical roles, negative attitudes and perceptions towards women that are obstacles to their achievement, particularly in the area of new technology",

was replaced by the following text:

"Recognizing that there is a need to eliminate gender stereotyping, particularly in relation to education and training";

(c) In operative paragraph 5, the words "particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization" were inserted after the word "organizations" and the words "developing strategies to efficiently and effectively target resources" were replaced by the words "strengthening strategies to target resources".

138. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America stated that her delegation had withdrawn its sponsorship of the draft resolution, as orally revised.

139. At the same meeting, Argentina, 23/ Australia, Austria, Bolivia, 23/ Canada, Cuba, Cyprus, France, the German Democratic Republic, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Pakistan, Portugal, 23/ Spain 23/ and Sweden joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, as orally revised.

140. The representative of Lesotho made a statement.

141. The Commission then adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 34/8).

Women and the environment: dumping of toxic industrial wastes, contaminated food and expired and banned medicines

142. At the 14th meeting, on 7 March, the representative of the Sudan, on behalf of the African States that are members of the Commission, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.15) entitled "Women and the environment: dumping of toxic industrial wastes, contaminated food and expired and banned medicines", which read as follows:

"The Commission on the Status of Women,

"Aware of the particular duty of humankind to preserve the environment for future generations,

"Gravely concerned by the growing illegal practice of the dumping of nuclear industrial wastes and contaminated food in developing countries by transnational corporations and other enterprises from industrialized countries that cannot dispose of such wastes within their own territories,

"Conscious of the fact that women and children are the most vulnerable to the environmental degradation and ecological imbalance emanating from these toxic wastes,

"Alarmed by the number of deaths of women and children caused by the use of banned and expired drugs and medicines that are distributed to developing countries,

"Recognizing that women have a major role to play in protecting the environment,

"1. Declares that the dumping of nuclear and industrial wastes as well as the sale and distribution of contaminated food is a crime against developing countries;

"2. Demands the establishment of a common and binding code of conduct on the dumping of toxic industrial wastes, contaminated food, and banned and expired medicines;

"3. Further demands an immediate ban on the dumping of toxic industrial wastes, contaminated food, and banned and expired medicines to be monitored and controlled by the international community through appropriate mechanisms;

"4. Strongly recommends that transnational corporations and other enterprises responsible for such dumpings should be held liable for compensation to victims and rehabilitation of the affected environment;

"5. Calls upon developing countries that have concluded or are in the process of concluding agreements or arrangements for dumping nuclear and industrial wastes in their territories to put an end to these transactions;

"6. Requests Governments to ensure an adequate supply and distribution of licit drugs in order to curtail the illicit trade in expired and banned drugs;

"7. Urges the World Health Organization to make available to Governments lists of banned drugs and all relevant information on expired and banned drugs;

"8. Calls upon Governments, with the assistance of the World Health Organization, to carry out national information campaigns on dangers of toxic industrial wastes, use of expired and banned medicine, and consumption of contaminated food."

143. At the 15th meeting, on 8 March, the Chairman informed the Commission that as a result of informal consultations, the draft resolution had been withdrawn.

Women and the environment

144. At the 14th meeting, on 7 March, the representative of the Sudan, on behalf of the African States that are members of the Commission, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.16) entitled "Women and the environment: natural disasters".

145. At the 15th meeting, on 8 March, the Commission had before it a revised draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.16/Rev.1) submitted by the Sudan on behalf of the African States that are members of the Commission, the Philippines and the United States of America, which read as follows:

"The Commission on the Status of Women,

"Noting with satisfaction the appropriate action taken by the international community in favour of developing countries affected by natural disasters,

"Reaffirming the importance of identifying environmental problems, the institutional and technical measures appropriate for solving them, and the perception of the links between peoples, development, resources and the environment,

"Concerned by the progressive degradation of the environment (soil erosion, uncontrolled deforestation, the headlong advance of the desert and plagues of locusts),

"Recognizing that the degradation of the environment harms the quality of daily life for millions of women in the developing world,

"Convinced that the deterioration of the environment is one of the main problems at present arising on a world scale,

"Aware of the fact that the increasing destruction of the environment caused by human activities has in certain cases led to irreversible ecological changes that threaten vital ecosystems and compromise health, welfare and development prospects, and even the perservation of existence on the planet,

"Taking note that there will be a United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 1992, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989,

"1. Calls upon Governments to establish and/or strengthen early warning systems;

"2. Requests that the international community should be immediately alerted when a threat is imminent;

"3. Urges the international community to assist Governments in facing urgent ecological situations and to mobilize financial resources and technical co-operation, having regard to the requirements of the countries concerned and particularly of the developing countries;

"4. Requests Governments to provide women and the various women's organizations with fuller information on problems relating to the environment and also on their capacity to manage their environment and to exploit in a productive manner the resources that it offers;

"5. Recommends Governments to bring about the increased participation of women at all levels of decision-making regarding questions relating to natural disasters and the environment, inter alia, reforestation and measures to combat erosion and plagues of locusts;

"6. Encourages Governments to include women in their preparations for and delegations to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 1992."

146. At the 17th meeting, on 9 March, the representative of the Sudan, on behalf of the sponsors, withdrew the revised draft resolution (E/CN.6/1990/L.16/Rev.1) and, on behalf of the African States that are members of the Commission, orally proposed the following draft decision entitled "Women and the environment":

"The Economic and Social Council decides to add the question of women and the environment to the priority theme of development for the thirty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, bearing in

mind that the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development will be held in 1992 and recalling its resolution 1987/24 of 26 May 1987 on the long-term programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women to the Year 2000 setting the priority themes for the period 1988-1992."

147. At the same meeting, the representative of Brazil said that the draft decision proposed orally by the representative of the Sudan constituted a new draft proposal, which had been submitted for consideration only a few hours before the closure of the session. She requested that the text of the draft decision be circulated to the members of the Commission and that the Commission then decide, bearing in mind rule 52 of the rule of procedure, whether it wished to consider the draft decision.

148. At the same meeting, the Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women made a statement in response to a question raised by the representative of Brazil.

149. At the 18th meeting, on 9 March, the Commission agreed to consider the draft decision, which was before it in document E/CN.6/1990/L.27.

150. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision I).

Chapter V

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

151. The Commission considered item 6 of its agenda at its 18th meeting, on 9 March 1990. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the thirty-fifth session together with a list of requested documentation (E/CN.6/1990/L.26);

(b) Note by the Secretariat on the proposed work programme required to prepare for the in-depth consideration of the priority themes scheduled for the thirty-fifth session of the Commission (E/CN.6/1990/CRP.1).

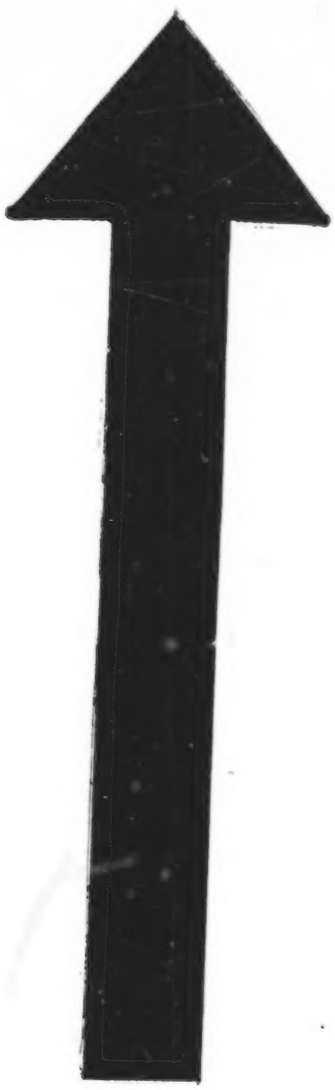
152. The Deputy Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women made an introductory statement.

153. The Commission approved the provisional agenda for the thirty-fifth session for submission to the Economic and Social Council and requested the secretariat of the Commission to complete it in the light of decisions taken by other organs (for the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision II).

Chapter VI

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON ITS THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION

154. At its 18th meeting, on 9 March 1990, the Commission adopted the report on its thirty-fourth session (E/CN.6/1990/L.3 and Add.1-6), as orally amended.



Chapter VII

ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening and duration of the session

155. The Commission on the Status of Women held its thirty-fourth session at the Vienna International Centre from 26 February to 9 March 1990. The Commission held 18 meetings.

156. The session was opened by the Minister of State for Women's Affairs of the Government of Austria in her capacity as Chairman of the thirty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women. She said that the thirty-fourth session was important because the Commission was to review and appraise the progress achieved in implementing the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and because the Commission's membership had been increased to 45 States. She considered that implementation of the Strategies had lost momentum at the national, regional and international levels and that there was a need for more political will, support and persistence in order to implement the Strategies effectively. She recalled that the decision to enlarge the membership of the Commission had caused difficulties at both the thirty-third session of the Commission and the first regular session of 1989 of the Economic and Social Council. Those difficulties should be overcome by solidarity and co-operation between the members of the Commission at its thirty-fourth session, in order to proceed in a constructive manner.

157. On behalf of the Secretary-General, the Under-Secretary-General and Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna said that the enlargement of the Commission offered an important opportunity to broaden its reach and strengthen its political base. She compared the implementation of the Strategies to a trilogy focused on the struggle to achieve equality by the year 2000: the first volume had been written; the major task of the Commission was to review and to give guidance on how the next two volumes should be written.

158. She recalled the euphoria that had surrounded the results of the Nairobi Conference and the initial action taken by Governments and the international community to build structures for implementing the Strategies, and the key role played by the Commission on the Status of Women in that process. She spoke of improvements on legal equality, and other positive developments. She noted, however, that economic conditions in the developing countries during the past five years had reduced the capacity of most Governments to take more affirmative action, and that there had been a disturbing resurgence of traditional attitudes in almost all countries which, in one way or another, might threaten the progress achieved towards equality. She considered that the first task was to identify the most important obstacles to dealing effectively with such problems. Referring to the discussion in the General Assembly in 1989, she stressed the need for practical measures to be taken that would allow more women to take control of their lives and make their contribution to society and the economy. She concluded that the Commission, by adopting a series of pragmatic recommendations for future action, would take a major step towards increasing the pace of implementation of the Strategies, despite economic recession and retrenchment.

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B. Attendance

159. The session was attended by representatives of all the States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for non-Member States also attended. Representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental organizations, liberation movements and non-governmental and other organizations also attended. A list of participants is contained in annex I to the present report.

C. Election of officers

160. At its 1st meeting, on 26 February, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairman: Helga Hoerz (German Democratic Republic)

Vice-Chairmen: Patricia Licuanan (Philippines)
Esther Lozano de Rey (Colombia)
Mervat Talawy (Egypt)

Rapporteur: Olivier Maitland Pelen (France)

D. Agenda and organization of work

161. At its 1st meeting, on 26 February, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda contained in document E/CN.6/1990/1, as follows:

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Programming and co-ordination matters related to the United Nations and the United Nations system.

4. Priority themes:

   (a) Equality: Equality in political participation and decision-making;

   (b) Development: Negative effects of the international economic situation on the improvement of the status of women;

   (c) Peace: Women in areas affected by armed conflicts, foreign intervention, alien and colonial domination, foreign occupation and threats to peace.

5. Monitoring and review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women.

6. Provisional agenda for the thirty-fifth session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-fourth session.

162. Also at its 1st meeting, the Commission approved the organization of the work of the session (E/CN.6/1990/L.1).

163. At its 2nd meeting on 26 February, the Commission decided on the organization of the work of a committee of the whole convened to review and appraise the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, pursuant to Economic and Social council resolution 1989/32. The committee of the whole met on 6 and 7 March.

164. Also at its 2nd meeting, the Commission decided to establish a working group to consider, under agenda item 5, communications on the status of women, pursuant to Economic and Social council resolution 1983/27. Five members nominated by their regional groups were appointed:

Michael J. Wilson (Australia)
María Ercília Borges Murakami (Brazil)
Du Qiwen (China)
Lateefa M. Okunnu (Nigeria)
Grazyna Budziszewska (Poland)

165. At the same meeting, the Commission decided to establish an informal group of friends of the Rapporteur, comprising the following five members, nominated by their regional groups, to assist the Rapporteur in completing the report on the thirty-fourth session:

Richard Looye (Canada)
Juana Silvera (Cuba)
Jirí Pulz (Czechoslovakia)
Joyce Bamford-Addo (Ghana)
Hussin bin Nayan (Malaysia)

E. Consultation with non-governmental organizations

166. Written statements submitted by non-governmental organizations in accordance with rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council are listed in annex II to the present report.

F. Statements on the occasion of International Women's Day

167. At the 15th meeting, on 8 March, statements on the occasion of International Women's Day were made by the Chairman, the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna and some representatives. Messages from the Secretary-General and the President of the United States of America were read out.

168. The Commission decided to send a message to the women of Namibia on the occasion of International Women's Day, 8 March 1990.

Annex I

ATTENDANCE

Members

Australia:	Elizabeth Delaney, Michael J. Wilson, Clare Nairn, Robyn Stern, Beverly Mercer, Ms. O'Byrne, Anna George
Austria:	Johanna Dohnal, Richard Wotava, Mechthild Petritsch-Holaday, Ingrid Schäffer, Dorothea Gaudart, Birgit Stimmer, Sabine Stvan-Jagoda, Renate Schopf, Ulrike Buchacher, Eveline Hönigsberger, Elisabeth Hechl, Doris Ranftl-Guggenberger, Eva Knollmayer, Wilfried Almoslechner, Helga Pegatz, G. Pichler
Bahamas:	Cora Bain-Cumbrooke, Sally E. Moss
Bangladesh:	Abdus Samad Bhuiyan, Ismat Jahan
Brazil:	Tereza Maria Machado Quintella, María Ercília Borges Murakami, Vergniaud Elyseu Filho
Burkina Faso:	Kadiatou Korsaga, Mariam Lamizana
Canada:	Rashim Ahluwalia, Kay Stanley, Rhonda Ferderber, Richard Looye, Freda Paltiel, Jan Sheltinga, Jillian Stirk
China:	Wang Shuxian, Du Qiwen, Chen Yongling, Li Jun, Wu Haitau
Colombia:	Esther Lozano de Rey, Mario Laserna, Patricia Koppel, María Isabel Segura
Costa Rica:	Ana Cecilia Escalante, Manuel A. Constenla, Yolanda Fernández Ochoa
Côte d'Ivoire:	Salimata Yvette Koné
Cuba:	Esther Veliz, Juana Silvera, Nery Rodríguez, Margarita Florez
Cyprus:	Myrna Y. Kleopas
Czechoslovakia:	Kvetoslava Korinkova, Mária Kolarikova, Jirí Ettler, Jirí Pulz, Juraj Király
Ecuador:	María del Carmen González
Egypt:	Mervat Talawy, Maha Fahmy, Fatma Hussein, Taher Farahat
France:	Pierrette Biraud, André Baeyens, Olivier Maitland Pelen, Michèle Audeoud, Caroline Mechin, Helmut Kuhn, Luc Derepas, Jean Galinier
Gabon:	Marie-Agnes Mouely-Koumba, Corentin Hervo-Akendengue

German Democratic Republic:	Tatjana Boehm*, Helga E. Hoerz, Joachim Maser, Falk Meltke, Editha Beier, Wolf-Hubert Grosskopf (Interpreter)
Ghana:	Joyce Bamford-Addo, Clifford N. A. Kotey
Guatemala:	Raquel Blandón de Cerezo, Olga Lucrecia Molina de Villagran, María Teresa Rodríquez Blandón
India:	P. L. Sinai, Vina Majumdar, Manju Senapaty, D. R. Pradhan
Indonesia:	Ani S. Santoso, Achie S. Luhulima, J. P. Louhanapessy, Sjamsiah Achmad, Moelyarto Tjokrowinoto, Dadang Sukandar, Yang A. Muttalib, Susanto Martokusumo, Wening E. Moe'min
Iran (Islamic Republic of):	Hossein Noghrehkar Shirazi, Farhad Mamdouhi, A. Malayeri, Simine Ghotb, Zahra A. Schafasand
Italy:	Tina Anselmi, Gianni Ghisi, Fiammetta Milesi-Ferretti, Marta Ajo
Jamaica:	Beverley Manley
Japan:	Makiko Sakai, Kiyoko Fujii, Yoshie Ohta, Tamotsu Shinozuka, Kazuko Komaki, Akira Mizutani, Kazutaka Nakazawa, Masako Toba
Lesotho:	A. M. Hlalele, A. L. Nalana, A. S. Ralebitso
Malaysia:	Hajjah Ainon bt Hj. Kuntom, Md. Hussin bin Nayan, Zuraidah Amiruddin
Mexico:	Olga Pellicer, María Cristina de la Garza, Porfirio Thierry Muñoz Ledo
Morocco:	Aicha Kabbaj, Ahmed El Ghernougui
Nigeria:	Lateefa M. Okunnu, Aishatu I. Ismail, Mahmud M. Bauchi, Sylvia I. Ekpo, Ifeoma J. Akabogu-Chinwuba
Pakistan:	Begum Rehana Sarwar, Fauzia Habib, Amjad Hussain B. Sial
Philippines:	Patricia B. Licuanan, Emelinda Lee-Pineda, Linglingay F. Lacanlale
Poland:	Helena Góralska, Grazyna Budziszewska, Aleksander Czepurko
Sudan:	Ali Yassin Gaili, Sakina Mohamed El Hassan, Salwa Dallalah
Sweden:	Gerd Engman, Charlotte von Redlich, Eva Walder-Brundin, Fredrik Schiller, Dorrit Alopaeus-Stahl, Ulla-Britt Croner, Anna-Karin Holm, Ulrika Ryberg
Thailand:	Saisuree Chutikul, Yupadi Wattanalai, Benjamas Marpraneet

* Head of delegation from 26-28 February 1990.

Turkey:	Emel Dogramaci, Murat Ersavci, Aysenur Alpaslan, Gülay Aslantepe, Senay Eser
Uganda:	Rhoda Peace Tumusiime
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:	T. N. Nikolaeva, A. N. Samoilov, E. T. Tregoubenko, M. P. Beliakov
United Republic of Tanzania:	Perucy N. Butiku, R. Lugembe, C. Warioba
United States of America:	Juliette Clagett McLennan, Michael H. Newlin, Theresa Elmore Behrendt, Jennifer Dunn, Bonnie F. Guiton, Elsie Vartanian, Adis Maria Vila, Esther Coopersmith, D. C. Gray, John A. Buche, Chris Cervenak, Kay Davies, Richard Hoover, Sharon Kotok, Elo-Kai Ojamaa, Brian Sapsford, Gregory B. Sprow, Lorraine Konzet
Zaire:	Assumani Ussu Bagbeni, Mulasi Lulu
Zimbabwe:	Salome D. Nyoni, P. Matsheza

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Chile, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Hungary, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela, Zambia

Non-member States represented by observers

Holy See, Republic of Korea, Switzerland

United Nations Secretariat

Economic Commission for Africa, Economic Commission for Europe, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

United Nations bodies

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Fund for Women, United Nations Population Fund, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

Specialized agencies

International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization, International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Intergovernmental organizations represented by observers

Commonwealth Secretariat, Council of Europe, European Economic Community, League of Arab States, Organization of African Unity, Organization of American States (Inter-American Commission of Women)

Other organizations represented by observers

Palestine

Liberation movements

African National Congress of South Africa, Pan Africanist Congress of Azania

Non-governmental organizations

Category I: International Alliance of Women - Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Council of Women, International Council on Social Welfare, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Organization of Consumers Unions, Soroptimist International, World Federation of Trade Unions, World Federation of United Nations Associations, World International Democratic Federation, World Veterans Federation, Zonta International

Category II: All-India Women's Conference, American Association of Retired Persons, Associated Country Women of the World, Bahá'í International Community, Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities), CHANGE, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, Disabled Peoples' International, Friends World Committee for Consultation, General Arab Women Federation, Housewives in Dialogue, International Abolitionist Federation, International Catholic Child Bureau, International Council of Jewish Women, International Federation for Home Economics, International Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centers, International Federation of Social Workers, International Federation of University Women, International Federation on Aging, International Institute of Administrative Sciences, International Social Science Council, Liberal International (World Liberal Union), Medical Women's International Association, Mediterranean Women's Studies Institute, National Council of German Women's Organizations - Federal Union of Women's Organizations and Women's Groups of German Associations, E.V., Pan-African Women's Organization, Pax Christi, International Catholic Peace Movement, Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs) (International Movement of Catholic Students), St. Joan's International Alliance, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Women's International Zionist

Organization, World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, World Confederation of Organizations of the Teaching Profession, World Federation of Methodist Women, World Leisure and Recreation Association, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, World Young Women's Christian Association, Worldview International Foundation

Roster: Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, HelpAge International, International Peace Bureau, International Peace Research Association, International Progress Organization, Third World Movement against the Exploitation of Women, World Development Movement, World Women Parliamentarians for Peace

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE COMMISSION AT ITS THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.6/1990/1	2	Provisional agenda
E/CN.6/1990/2 and Corr.1	4 (a)	Equality in political participation and decision-making: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.6/1990/3	4 (b)	Negative effects of the international economic situation on the improvement of the status of women: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.6/1990/4	4 (c)	Women in areas affected by armed conflicts, foreign intervention, alien and colonial domination, foreign occupation and threats to peace: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.6/1990/5	5	Progress at the national, regional and international levels in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.6/1990/6	5	Draft recommendations and conclusions arising from the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women: report of the Secretary-General

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.6/1990/7	5	Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.6/1990/8	5	Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women regarding women and children in Namibia: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.6/1990/9	5	Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women regarding women and children under apartheid: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.6/1990/10	5	Situation of Palestinian women in the occupied territories: note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.6/1990/CRP.1	6	Proposed work programme required to prepare for the in-depth consideration of the priority themes scheduled for the thirty-fifth session of the Commission: note by the Secretariat
E/CN.6/1990/CRP.2	3	Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat: note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.6/1990/CRP.3	5	Excerpt from decisions adopted by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination at its second regular session of 1989 (ACC/1989/DEC/24-32)

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.6/1990/L.1	2	Organization of the work of the session: note by the Secretariat
E/CN.6/1990/L.2	3	Argentina, Austria, Colombia, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Guatemala, Philippines, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, United States of America and Zaire: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.2/Rev.1	3	Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Canada, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Guatemala, Ireland, Malaysia, Morocco, New Zealand, Philippines, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, United States of America, Venezuela and Zaire: revised draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.3 and Add.1-6	7	Draft report of the Commission on its thirty-fourth session
E/CN.6/1990/L.4	4	Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico and Venezuela: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.4/Rev.1	4	Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, France, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Philippines, Portugal, Sweden, United States of America, Venezuela and Zimbabwe: revised draft resolution

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.6/1990/L.5	4 (c)	Australia, Austria, Canada, Costa Rica, Nigeria, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.5/Rev.1	4 (c)	Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Canada, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Germany, Federal Republic of, Guatemala, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nigeria, Philippines, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe: revised draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.6	4 (b)	Egypt, France, German Democratic Republic, Holy See, Israel, Italy, Malaysia, Poland, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America and Zaire: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.6/Rev.1	4 (b)	France, German Democratic Republic, Holy See, Italy, Malaysia, Poland, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America and Zaire: revised draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.7	4 (b)	Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, France, Italy and Turkey: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.8	4 (a)	Australia, Austria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.6/1990/L.9	4	Sudan (on behalf of the African States members of the Commission on the Status of Women): draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.9/Rev.1	4	China and Lebanon (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77): revised draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.10	5	Lebanon (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77): draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.11	5	Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cuba, Cyprus, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.11/Rev.1	5	Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cuba, Cyprus, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe: revised draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.12	5	Guatemala (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean States that are members of the Commission on the Status of Women): draft resolution

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.6/1990/L.13	5	Denmark and Lebanon (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77): draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.14	5	Lebanon (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77): draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.15	5	Sudan (on behalf of the African States that are members of the Commission on the Status of Women): draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.16	5	Sudan (on behalf of the African States that are members of the Commission on the Status of Women): draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.16/Rev.1	5	Sudan (on behalf of the African States that are members of the Commission on the Status of Women): revised draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.17	5	Austria, China, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guatemala, Ireland, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Thailand, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Zimbabwe: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.18	5	Australia, Austria, Canada and Sweden: draft resolution

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.6/1990/L.19	5	Australia, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Germany, Federal Republic of, Holy See, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey and Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.20	5	Lebanon (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77): draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.21	5	Lebanon (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77): draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.22	5	Australia, Austria, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Egypt, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Zaire and Zimbabwe: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.23	5	Colombia, Costa Rica, Czecholovakia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Holy See, Hungary, Italy, Jamaica, Poland, Sudan (on behalf of the African States that are members of the Commission on the Status of Women), Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United States of America: draft resolution
E/CN.6/1990/L.24	5	Austria, Canada, Ghana, Nigeria, Philippines, Sudan, Sweden, Turkey and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: draft resolution

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.1990/L.25	5	Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mrs. Mervat Talawy (Egypt)
E/CN.6/1990/L.26	6	Draft provisional agenda and documentation: note by the Secretariat
E/CN.6/1990/L.27	5	Sudan (on behalf of the African States that are members of the Commission on the Status of Women): draft decision
E/CN.6/1990/NGO/1	5	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: International Alliance of Women, International Council of Women (category I); American Association of Retired Persons, International Association for Religious Freedom, International Federation of Associations of the Elderly, International Federation on Aging, Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association (category II); Gray Panthers, International Committee of Catholic Nurses (Roster)
E/CN.6/1990/NGO/2	4 (c)	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: World Veterans Federation (category I)

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.6/1990/NGO/3	4 and 6	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council of North and South America, International Alliance of Women, International Council of Women (category I): All-India Women's Conference, Bahá'í International Community, International Council of Jewish Women, Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association, St. Joan International Alliance, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (category II)
E/CN.6/1990/NGO/4	4 (a) and 4 (b)	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: International Alliance of Women, International Council of Women (category I); American Association of Retired Persons, International Association for Religious Freedom, International Federation of Associations of the Elderly, International Federation on Aging, Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association (category II); Gray Panthers, International Committee of Catholic Nurses (Roster)

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.6/1990/NGO/5	4 (a)	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: International Council of Women, International Council on Social Welfare, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Planned Parenthood Federation, Soroptimist International, Zonta International (category I); All-India Women's Conference, Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities), Disabled People's International, Friends World Committee for Consultation, International Abolitionist Federation, International Council of Jewish Women, International Federation for Home Economics, International Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centers, International Federation of University Women, Medical Women's International Association, Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs), (International Movement of Catholic Students), Women's International Zionist Organization, World Federation of Methodist Women, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, World Young Women's Christian Association (category II); European Union of Women, HelpAge International, International Inner Wheel (Roster)

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.6/1990/NGO/6	5	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: International Alliance of Women, International Organization of Consumers Unions (category I); American Association of Retired Persons, Bahá'í International Community, Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities), International Catholic Child Bureau, International Centre of Social Gerontology, International Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centers, International Federation of Social Workers, International Federation on Aging, Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (category II); Catholic International Education Office, Gray Panthers, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Institute of Rural Construction, National Council on Aging, Servas International, World Union for Progressive Judaism (Roster)
E/CN.6/1990/NGO/7	4 (a) and 4 (b)	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: International Alliance of Women (category I)

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.6/1990/NGO/8	4 (a)	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: International Council of Voluntary Agencies (category I)
E/CN.6/1990/NGO/9	6	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: International Federation of Business and Professional Women (category I)
E/CN.6/1990/NGO/10	4 (b)	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: International Alliance of Women, International Council of Women, Zonta International (category I); American Association of Retired Persons, Caritas Internationalis (International Federation of Catholic Charities), Co-ordinating Board of Jewish Organizations, Disabled People's International, Medical Women's International Association, International Association of Schools of Social Work, International Council of Jewish Women, International Federation for Home Economics, International Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centers, International Federation of Social Workers, International Federation on Aging, World Leisure and Recreation Association, International

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
		Road Safety (category II); European Federation for the Welfare of the Elderly (Roster)
E/CN.6/1990/NGO/10/Add.1	4 (b)	Statement submitted by the following additional non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: International Organization of Consumers Unions, Soroptimist International (category I); Associated Country Women of the World, Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs) (International Movement of Catholic Students), World Federation for Mental Health, World Federation of Methodist Women, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (category II); HelpAge International, International Inner Wheel (Roster)
E/CN.6/1990/NGO/11	5	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council based on the recommendations resulting from the Non-Governmental Organizations consultations held on 22 and 23 February 1990: International Alliance of Women, International Council on Social Welfare (category I); World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (category II)

Documents before the Commission for information

Document symbol	Title or description
A/44/6/Rev.1	Extracts from the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, as approved by the General Assembly
A/44/16 (paras. 147 to 151 and 341-352) and Add.1	Extracts from the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on its twenty-ninth session
A/44/38	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its eighth session
A/44/290	Report of the Secretary-General on the effective mobilization of women in development
A/44/407	Report of the Secretary-General on the preparation for and observance of an international family year
A/44/457	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
A/44/511	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women
A/45/38	Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its ninth session
A/C.5/44/17	Report of the Secretary-General on improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat
E/1989/19 and Corr.1	Report of the Secretary-General on the cross-organizational programme of analysis of the activities of the United Nations system for the advancement of women
ST/CSDHA/6	1989 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development

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